

MARVEL

JAMES PATTERSON

MAX RIDE

ULTIMATE FLIGHT

HOUSER • SILVA • WONG • ROSENBERG

005

YAS

YAS

MAXIMUM RIDE DOESN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HER PAST.

SHE KNOWS ABOUT THE **LAB** WHERE SHE WAS GIVEN WINGS AND THE ABILITY TO FLY. SHE KNOWS ABOUT **JEB**, THE MAN WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR EXPERIMENTING ON HER. SHE KNOWS THAT SHE HAS TO PROTECT THE REST OF **THE FLOCK** -- FANG, NUDGE, IGGY, GASMAN, AND ANGEL -- AT ALL COSTS.

AND SHE KNOWS THAT SHE HAS ONE MISSION: TO SAVE THE WORLD.

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ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL, *MAXIMUM RIDE: SCHOOL'S OUT FOREVER*, BY JAMES PATTERSON



THE **FLOCK** DISCOVERED THAT THE FBI AGENT THAT TOOK THEM IN WAS WORKING FOR **JEB** AND HIS SCIENTISTS ALL ALONG. NOW THEY'RE ON THE RUN FROM JEB'S LACKEYS: **ARI** AND THE **ERASERS**.

WHILE CAMPING OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WOODS, THE FLOCK CAUGHT A YOUNG BOY AND GIRL SPYING ON THEM. THE CHILDREN HAD BEEN HIRED BY A COMPANY CALLED ITEX. MAYBE **ITEX** HOLDS THE CLUES TO THEIR ORIGIN?

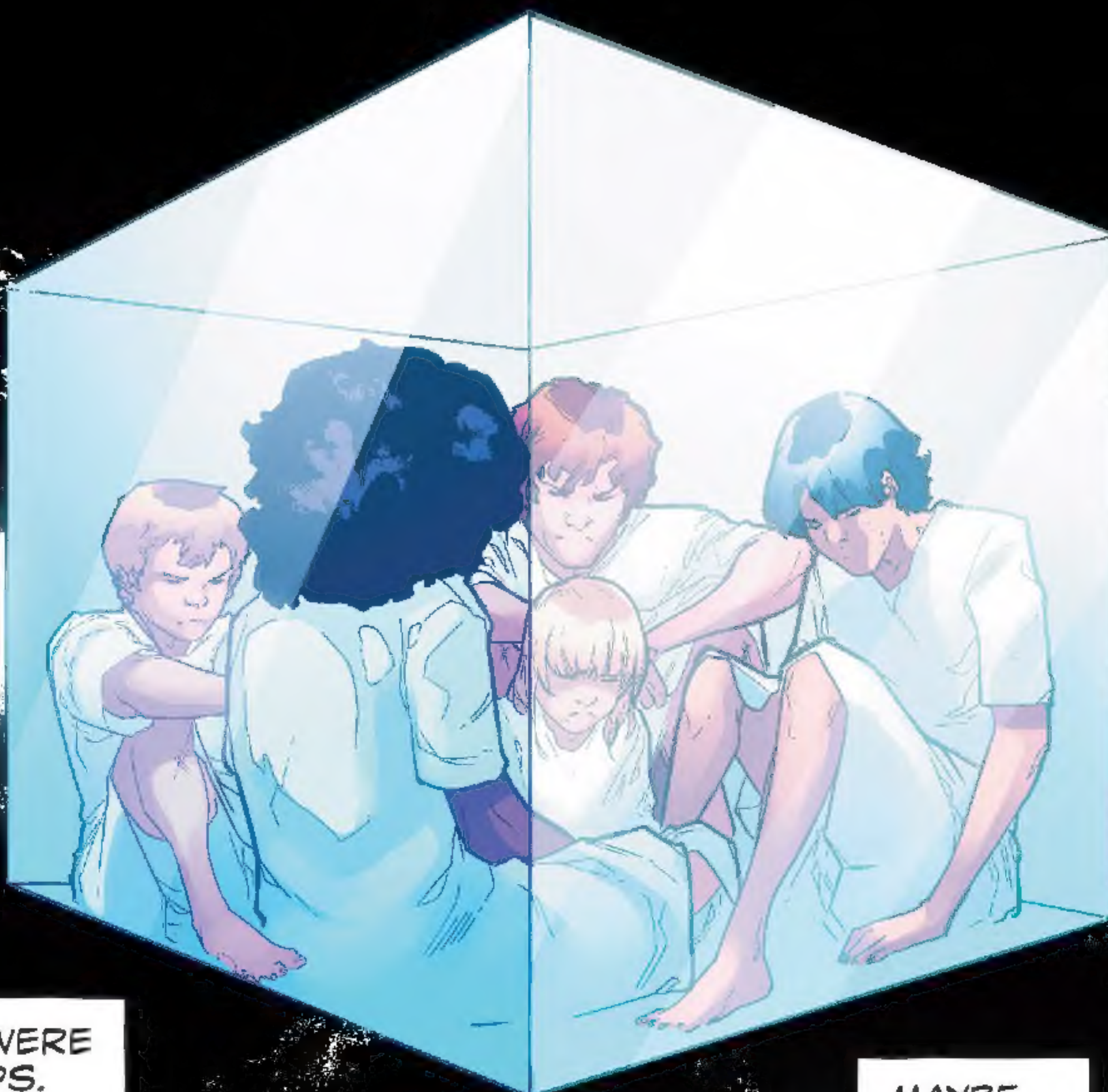
THE FLOCK IS DETERMINED TO END THINGS ONCE AND FOR ALL. THEY'RE GOING TO TAKE THE FIGHT TO ITEX, WHERE THEY BELIEVE JEB'S LAB TO BE.

BUT JUST BEFORE THEY'RE ABOUT TO LEAVE, **MAXIMUM RIDE** IS KIDNAPPED BY ARI AND AN **EVIL CLONE** OF MAX TAKES HER PLACE!

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MAX RIDE: ULTIMATE FLIGHT No. 5, March 2016. Published Monthly by MARVEL WORLDWIDE, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, LLC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 135 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10020. © Copyright © 2016 by James Patterson. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of James Patterson. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this comic book with those of any living or dead person or actual institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

I FORGOT
SOMETHING.



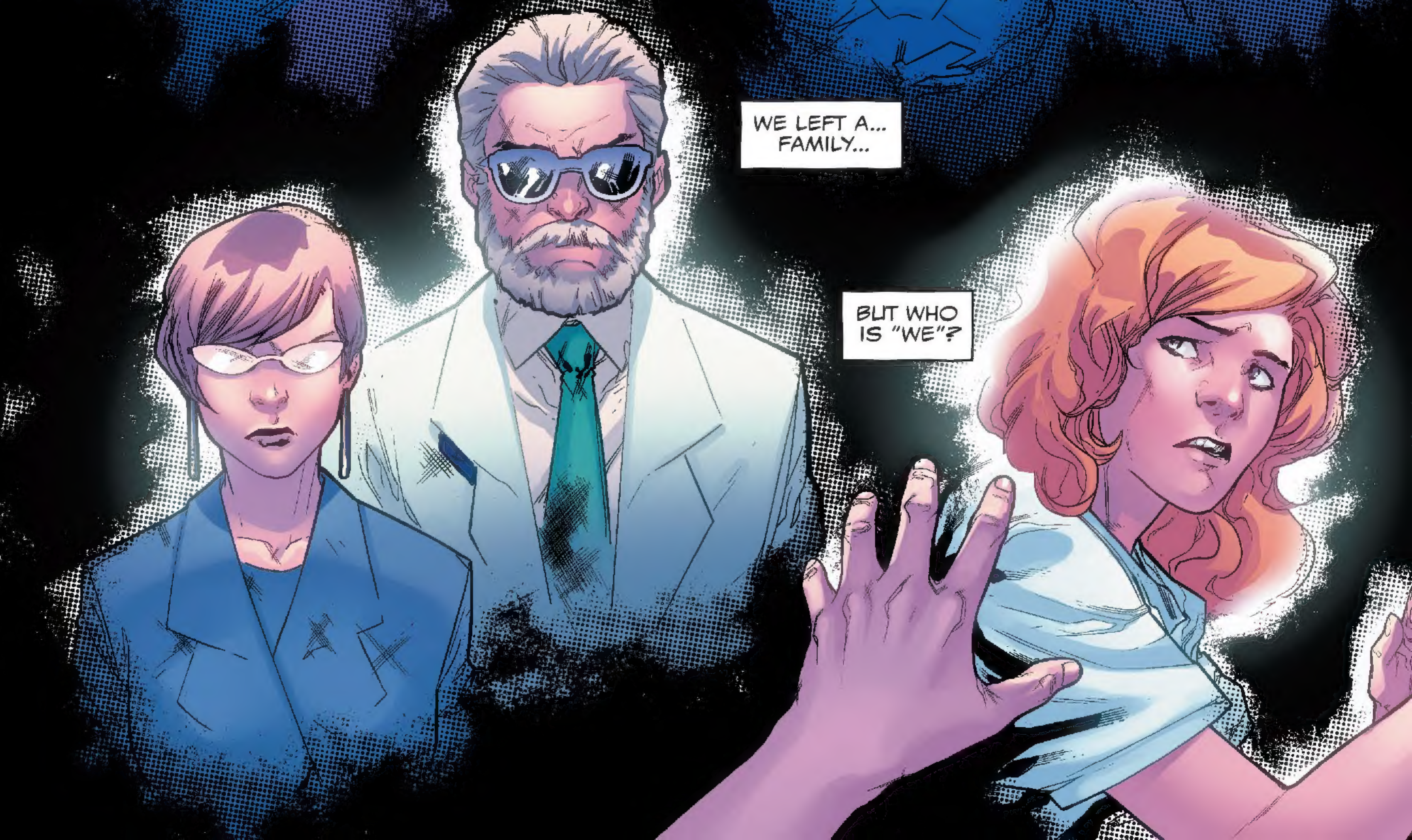
THERE WERE
HANDS.

MAYBE...
CLAWS?



WE LEFT A...
FAMILY...

BUT WHO
IS "WE"?



WHO
AM I?



36 HOURS AGO...

ARI, CAN YOU MAKE IT OUT WITHOUT THEM SEEING YOU?

I GOT IN HERE, DIDN'T I? WORRY ABOUT YOURSELF.

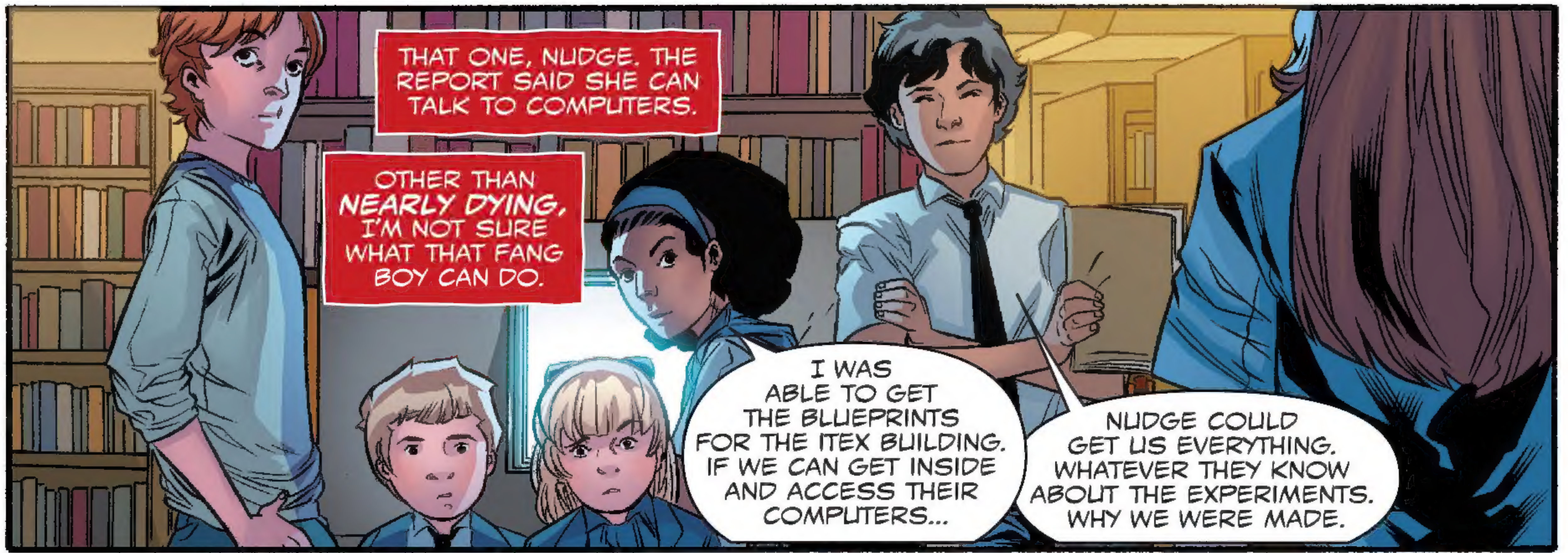
WHY SHOULD I BE WORRIED? EASIEST INFILTRATION JOB IN HISTORY.

IDENTICAL ON THE OUTSIDE, SUPERIOR IN EVERY WAY THAT COUNTS.

THEY'LL NEVER SEE **THIS** COMING.

AND HERE'S THE LITTLE PACK OF FREAKS THE "ORIGINAL MAX" HAS BEEN RUNNING AROUND WITH.

SO, WHAT DID I MISS?



THAT ONE, NUDGE. THE REPORT SAID SHE CAN TALK TO COMPLTERS.

OTHER THAN NEARLY DYING, I'M NOT SURE WHAT THAT FANG BOY CAN DO.

I WAS ABLE TO GET THE BLUEPRINTS FOR THE ITEX BUILDING. IF WE CAN GET INSIDE AND ACCESS THEIR COMPLTERS...

NUDGE COULD GET US EVERYTHING. WHATEVER THEY KNOW ABOUT THE EXPERIMENTS. WHY WE WERE MADE.

THE BROTHER AND SISTER, GAZZY AND ANGEL, AREN'T MUCH MORE THAN BABIES. AND THE REDHEAD, IGGY, WAS BLINDED DURING THE TESTS.

WEAK, ALL OF THEM.

BY THE TIME ANY OF THEM REALIZE THEIR **INFERIOR** MAX HAS BEEN REPLACED, IT WILL BE TOO LATE FOR THEM.

THAT'S WONDERFUL! SUCH A GOOD JOB, EVERYONE!

UH, THANKS.

IF WE HAVE EVERYTHING WE NEED, LET'S GO. I HAVE A SURPRISE FOR YOU.

RIGHT, TALKING DOG. ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT HIM. DOUBT HE'S ANY SMARTER THAN THE KIDS.

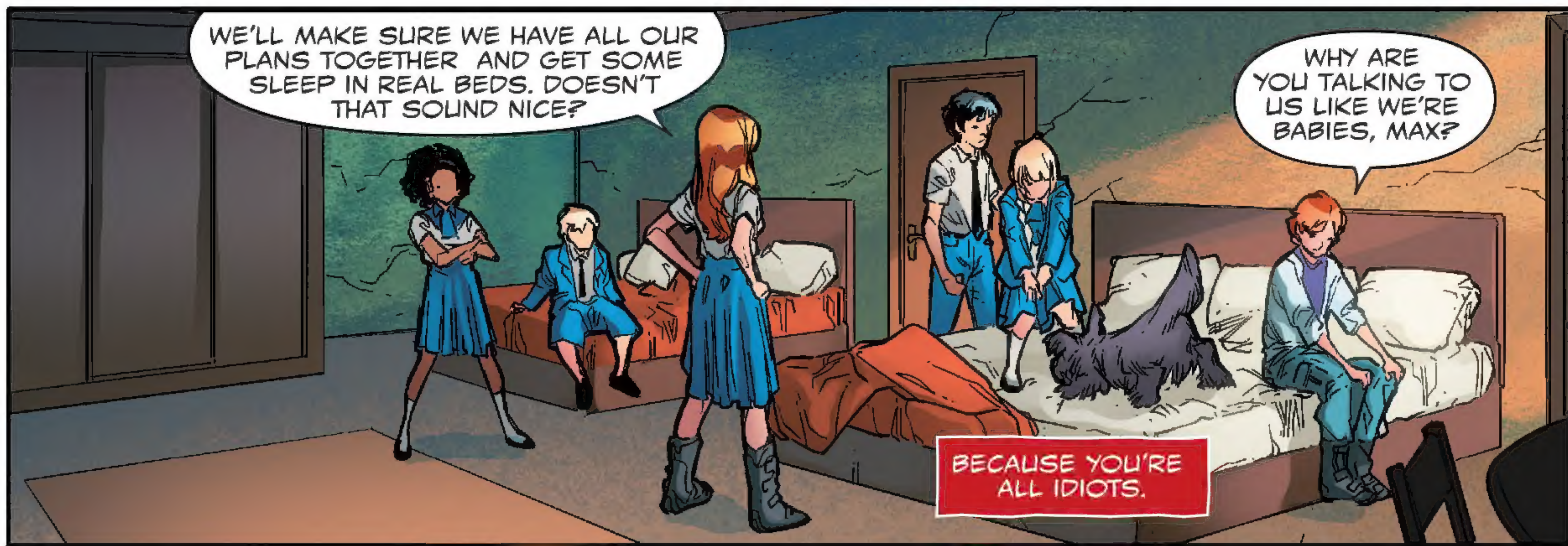
DID YOU FIND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR? IT SMELLS LIKE ERASERS AROUND HERE.

WE'D BETTER HURRY, THEN!

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA? THIS WILL EAT UP ALMOST ALL THE MONEY WE HAVE.

WE WANT TO MAKE SURE EVERYONE IS NICE AND RESTED WHEN WE BREAK INTO ITEX TONIGHT.

AND IT WILL BE A DISTRACTION TO MAKE SURE THEY DON'T JUMP THE GUN.



WE'LL MAKE SURE WE HAVE ALL OUR PLANS TOGETHER AND GET SOME SLEEP IN REAL BEDS. DOESN'T THAT SOUND NICE?

WHY ARE YOU TALKING TO US LIKE WE'RE BABIES, MAX?

BECAUSE YOU'RE ALL IDIOTS.



I JUST DON'T WANT YOU ALL TO BE SCARED. WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'LL SEE IN THERE.

I'M NOT SCARED.

WHATEVER IT IS, WE'LL DEAL WITH IT TOGETHER.



ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE LISTEN--

YOU ALL KNOW WHAT TO DO.

CLAP



GAZZY AND I ARE ON EXPLOSIVES.

I'LL WORK ON ESCAPE ROUTE OPTIONS.



I'LL TAKE TOTAL FOR A WALK.

NOT BY YOURSELF, ANGEL.



YOU'RE WELCOME TO TAG ALONG IF YOU DON'T SLOW ME DOWN.



WHY THE HELL AREN'T THEY LISTENING? DOES MAX REALLY LET THEM DO WHATEVER THEY WANT?

JUST ANOTHER
EXAMPLE OF
WHAT A PATHETIC
FAILURE SHE IS.

...LIGHT...
CAN'T...
READY...

I DON'T
UNDERSTAND.
IS THAT
THE VOICE?

WAIT, WHAT'S
"THE VOICE"?

...FOCUS
ON...DRUGS
AREN'T...READY...
MAX...

MAX? AM
I MAX?

...BACK
UNDER...
SENSORY...
MORE TESTS
LATER...

BACK IN
THE DARK.
BETTER IN
HERE. SAFE.

DON'T HAVE
TO WORRY
ABOUT ANYTHING.

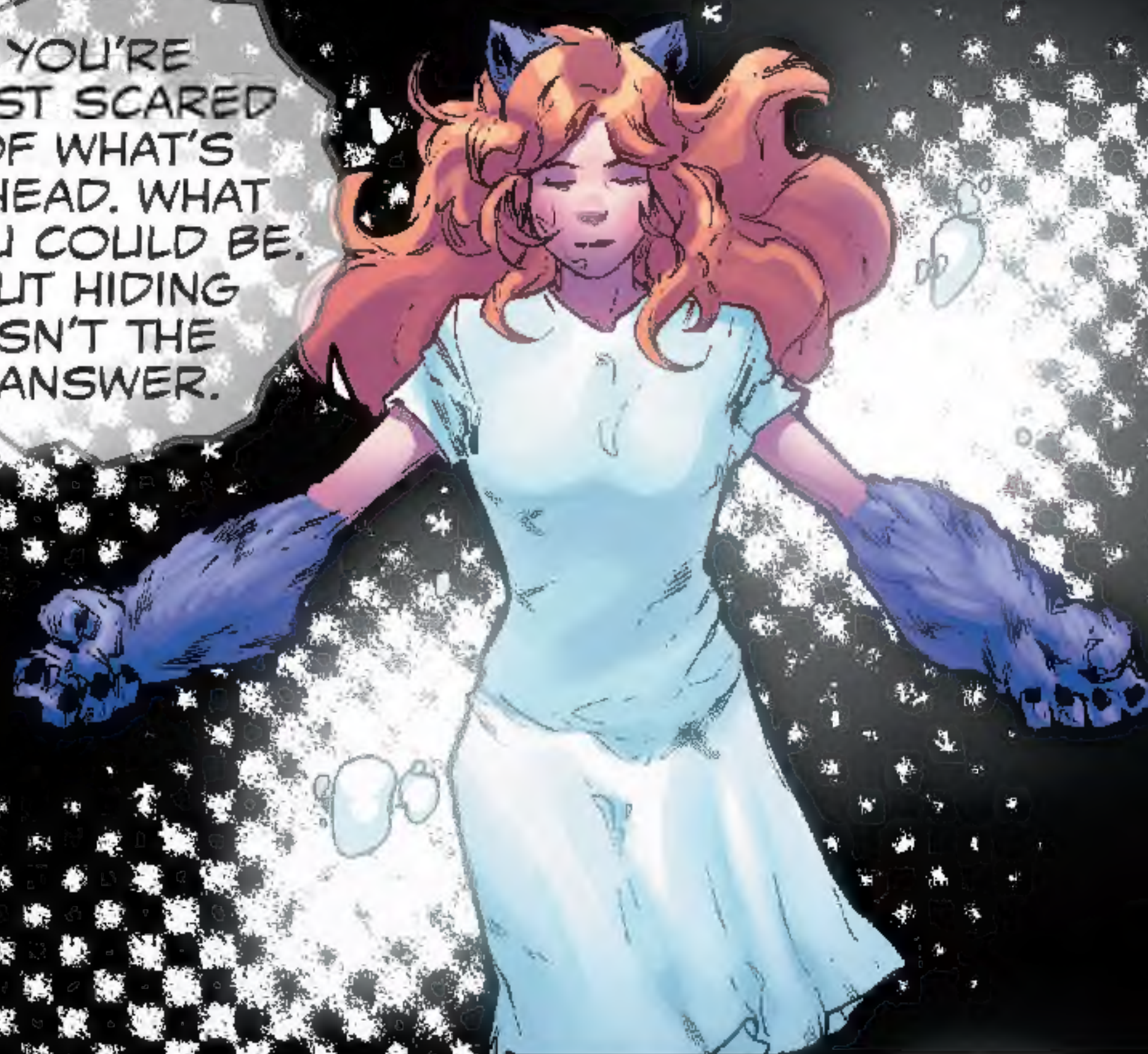
DON'T
HAVE TO BE
ANYONE.

MAX?
YOU HAVE TO
WAKE UP,
MAX.

YOU DON'T
BELONG HERE.
YOU NEVER
DID.



YOU'RE
JUST SCARED
OF WHAT'S
AHEAD. WHAT
YOU COULD BE.
BUT HIDING
ISN'T THE
ANSWER.



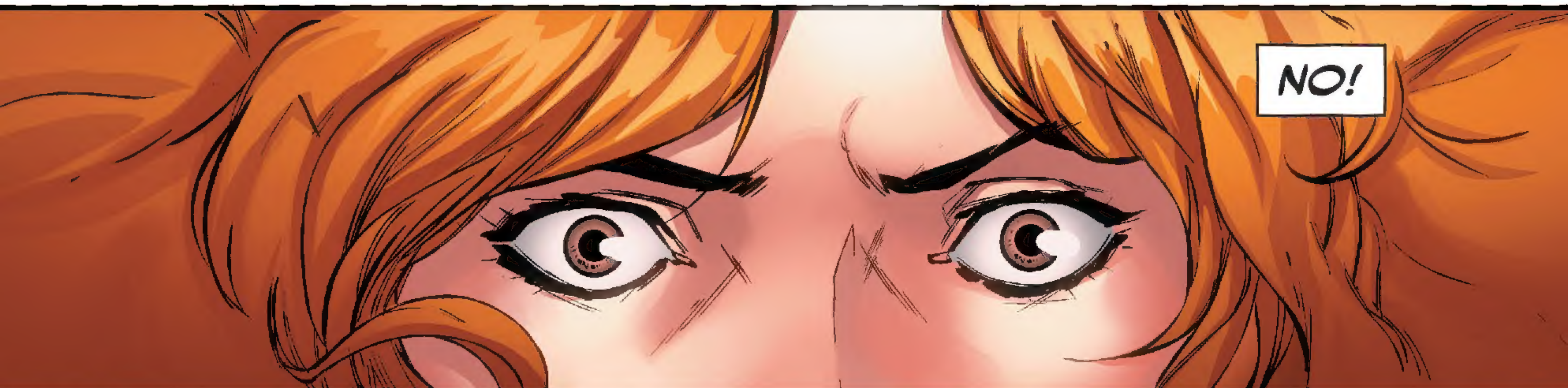
THE FLOCK
IS WAITING
FOR YOU. THEY
NEED YOU.
THE **WORLD**
NEEDS
YOU.

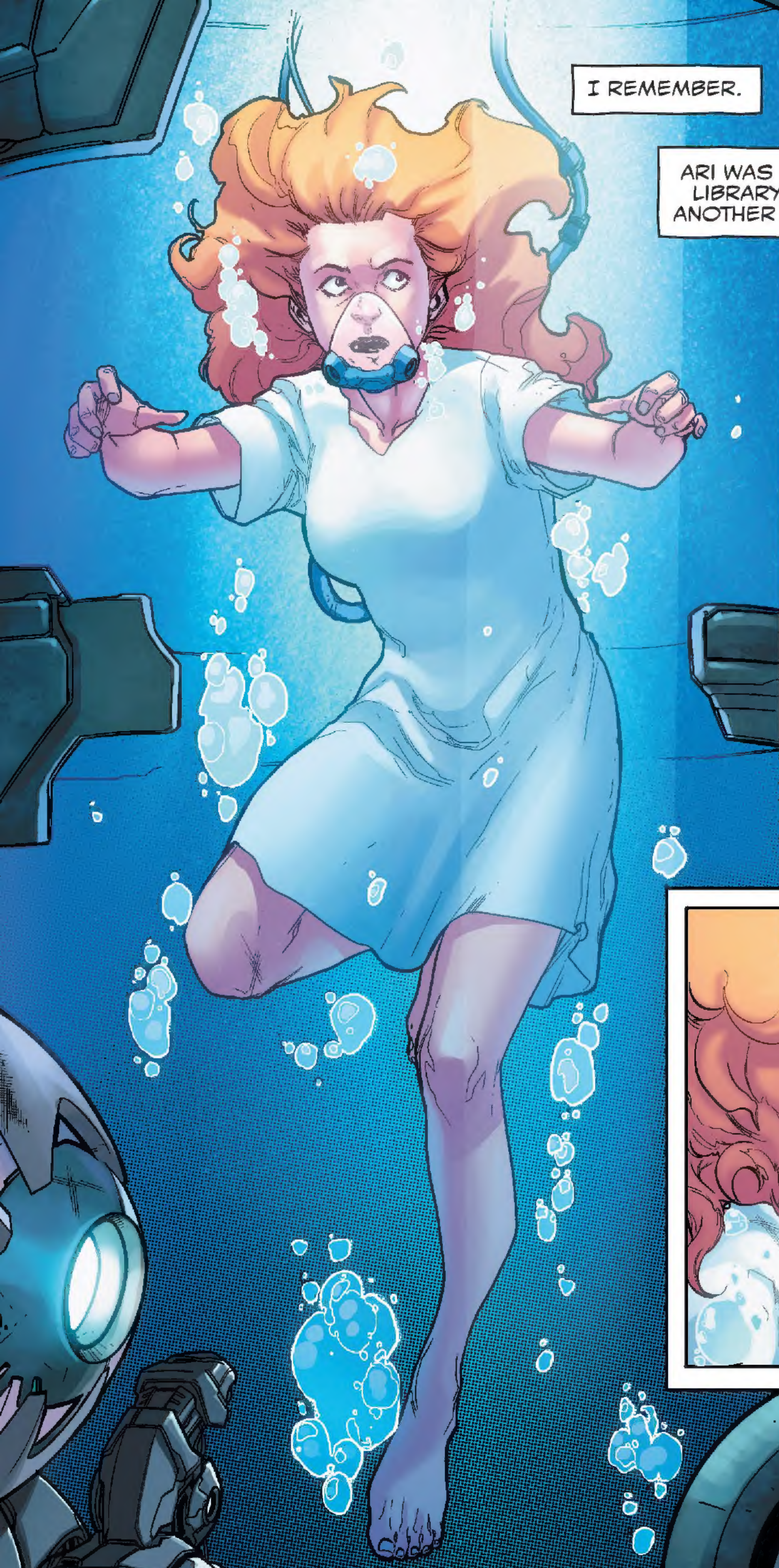


YOU'RE
MAXIMUM RIDE.
AND YOU WILL
NOT LET THEM
LOCK YOU
AWAY!



NO!

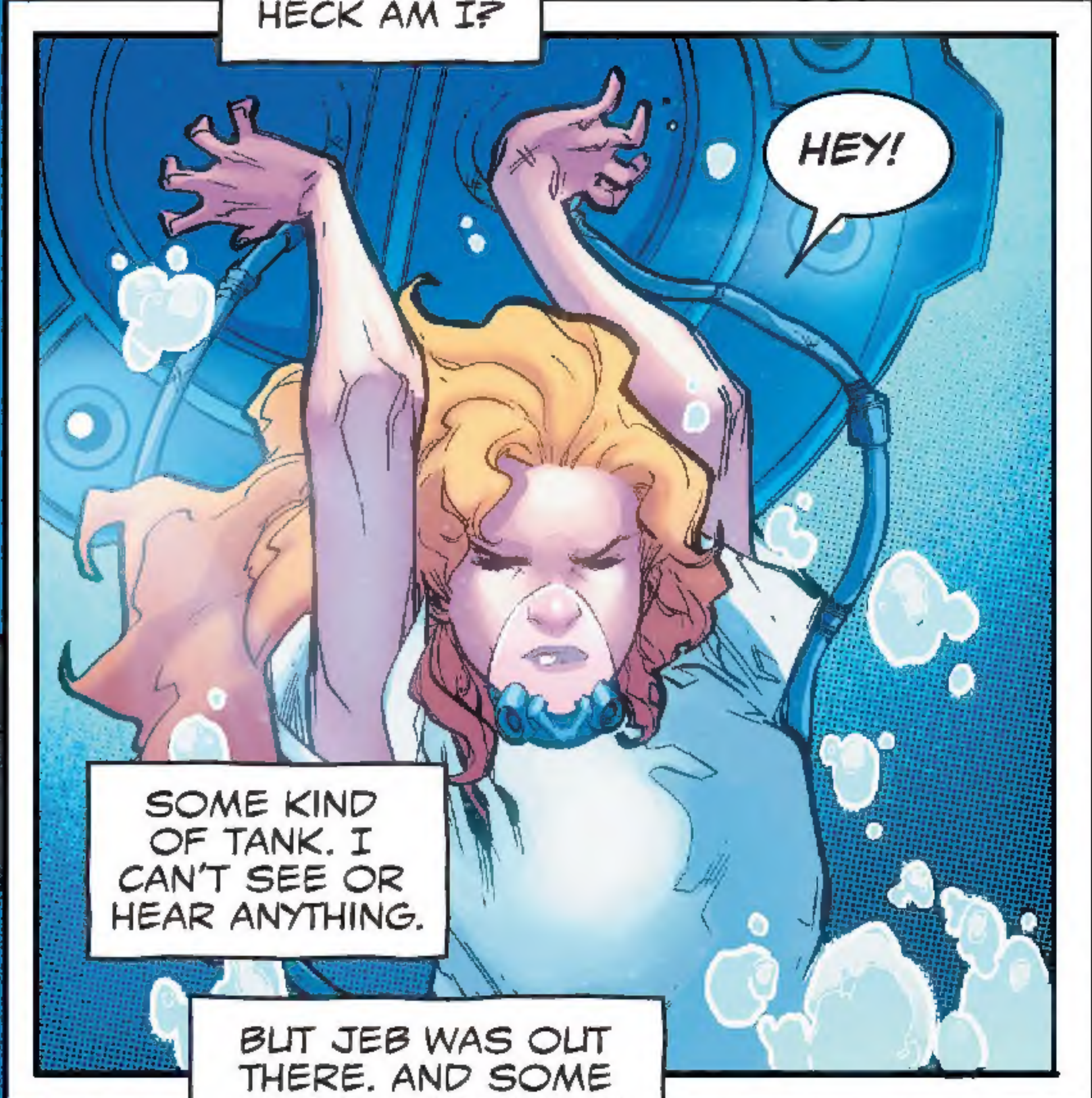




I REMEMBER.

ARI WAS IN THE LIBRARY. AND ANOTHER MAX...?

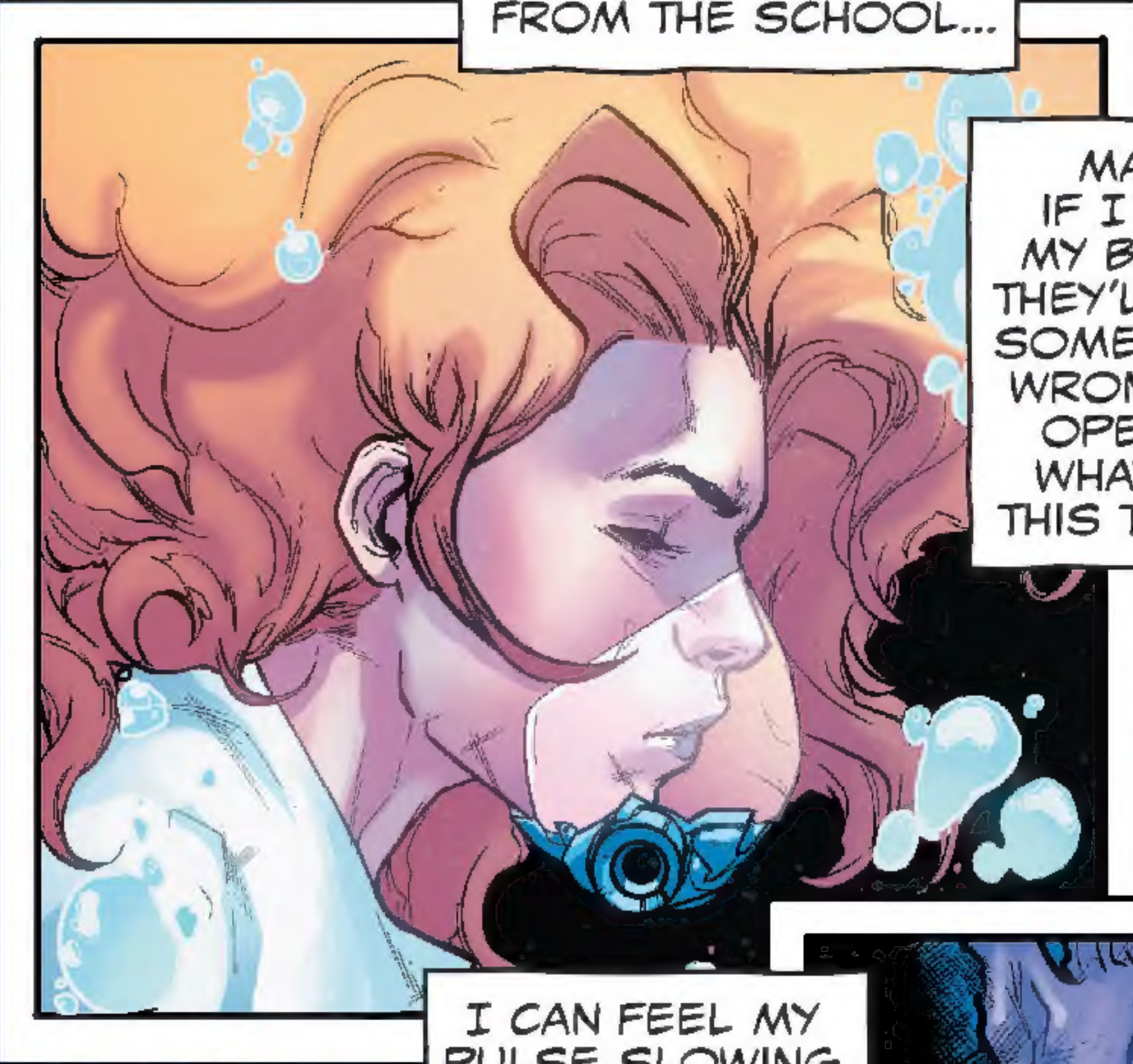
WHERE THE HECK AM I?



HEY!

SOME KIND OF TANK. I CAN'T SEE OR HEAR ANYTHING.

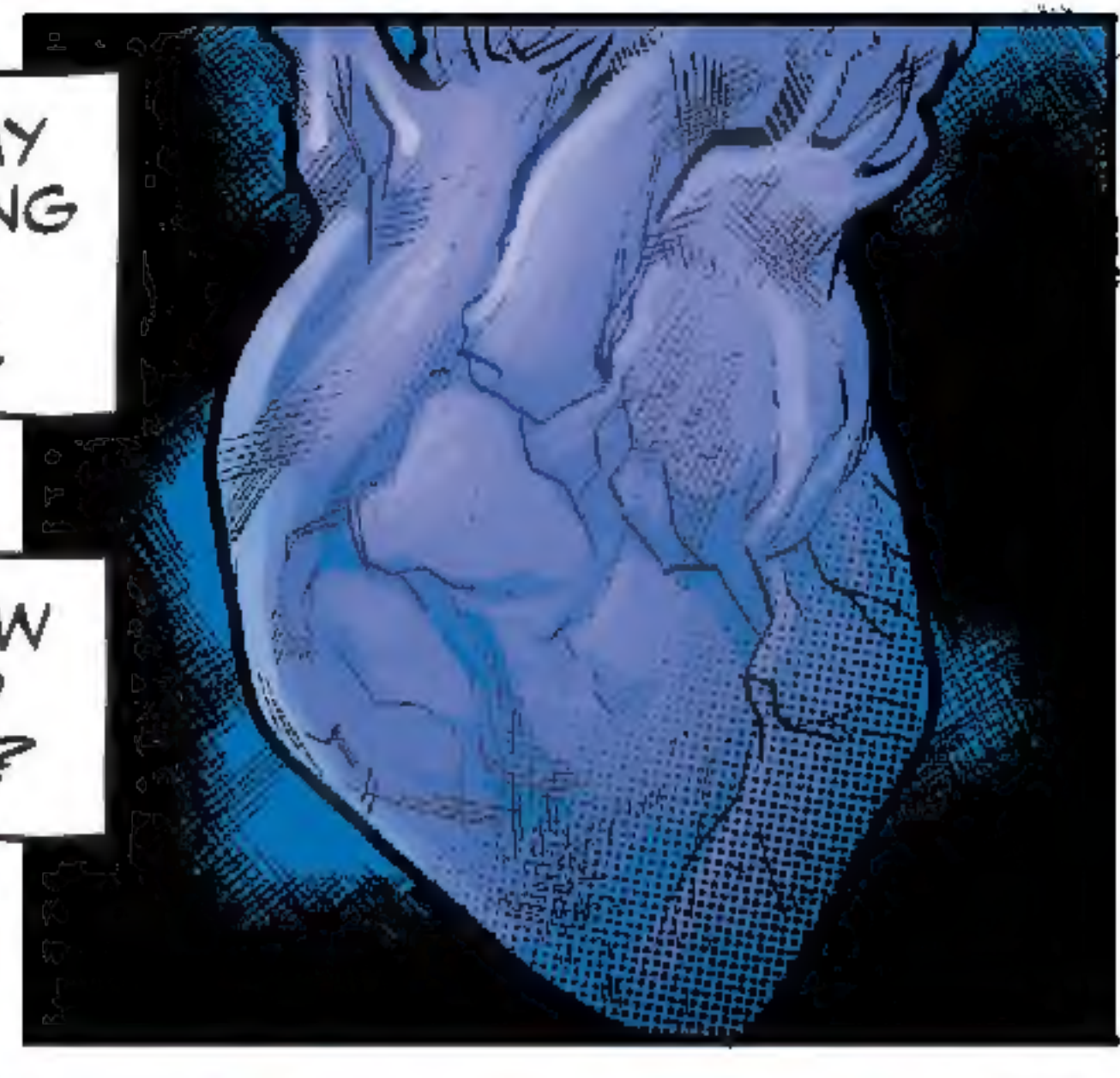
BUT JEB WAS OUT THERE. AND SOME OF THE WHITECOATS FROM THE SCHOOL...



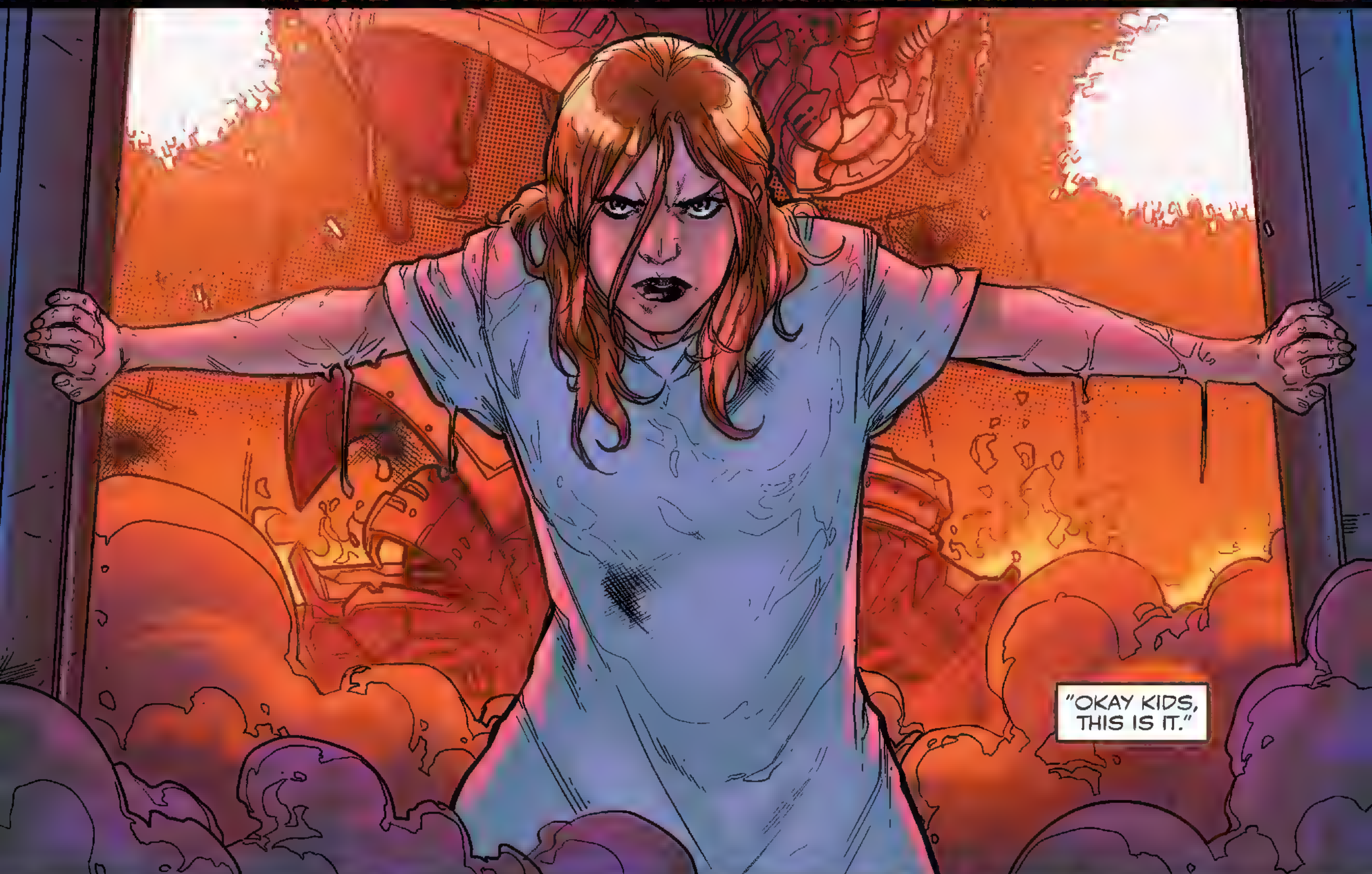
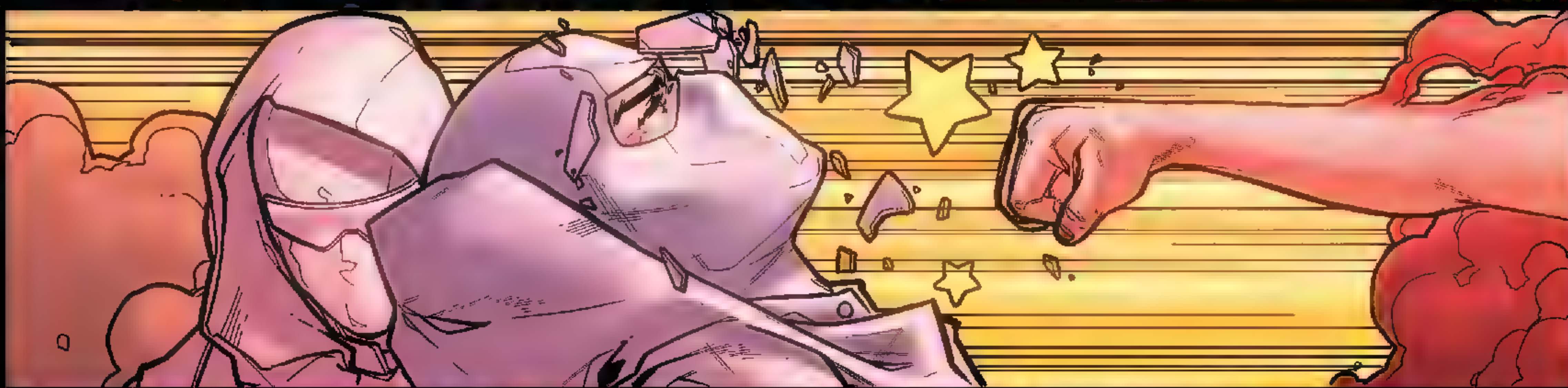
MAYBE IF I HOLD MY BREATH, THEY'LL THINK SOMETHING'S WRONG AND OPEN UP... WHATEVER THIS THING IS.

I CAN FEEL MY PULSE SLOWING DOWN TOO. LIKE A LOT.

DID I KNOW I COULD DO THAT?



BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP



SO GLAD THIS ASSIGNMENT IS ALMOST OVER. I HAVE NO IDEA HOW THE FIRST MAX PUT UP WITH THEM DAY AFTER DAY.

REMEMBER TO FOLLOW MY LEAD.

RIGHT...

JUST ANOTHER SYMPTOM OF HER INFERIORITY, I SUPPOSE.

LUGH!

THE TRAP'S READY. THEY'VE ALREADY TAKEN THE BAIT. JUST A LITTLE FARTHER.

THIS WAY LOOKS GOOD. IF WE JUST--

I'M THE ONE WITH THE BUILT-IN RADAR, REMEMBER? AND IT'S TELLING ME TO HEAD THIS WAY.

IGGY DOES HAVE A POINT, MAX.

I'LL KILL THEM. RIGHT HERE! I'LL--

NO. I'LL COMPLETE MY MISSION.

LEAD THE WAY.

THEY'RE
INSIDE ITEX NOW.
THERE'S NO
GETTING OUT.

HAVE TO FIND
A WAY OUT
OF HERE.

WHEREVER HERE
IS. HAVEN'T SEEN
ANY ERASERS, AT
LEAST. HUMANS ARE
ENOUGH TO DEAL
WITH RIGHT NOW.

I JUST HOPE
THE OTHERS
ARE OKAY. ARI
WAS THERE. AND...

I CAN
WORK IT
OUT LATER.

FIRST THINGS
FIRST. JUST
GET OUT.

PLACE IS A MAZE.
IF I COULD
JUST FIND--

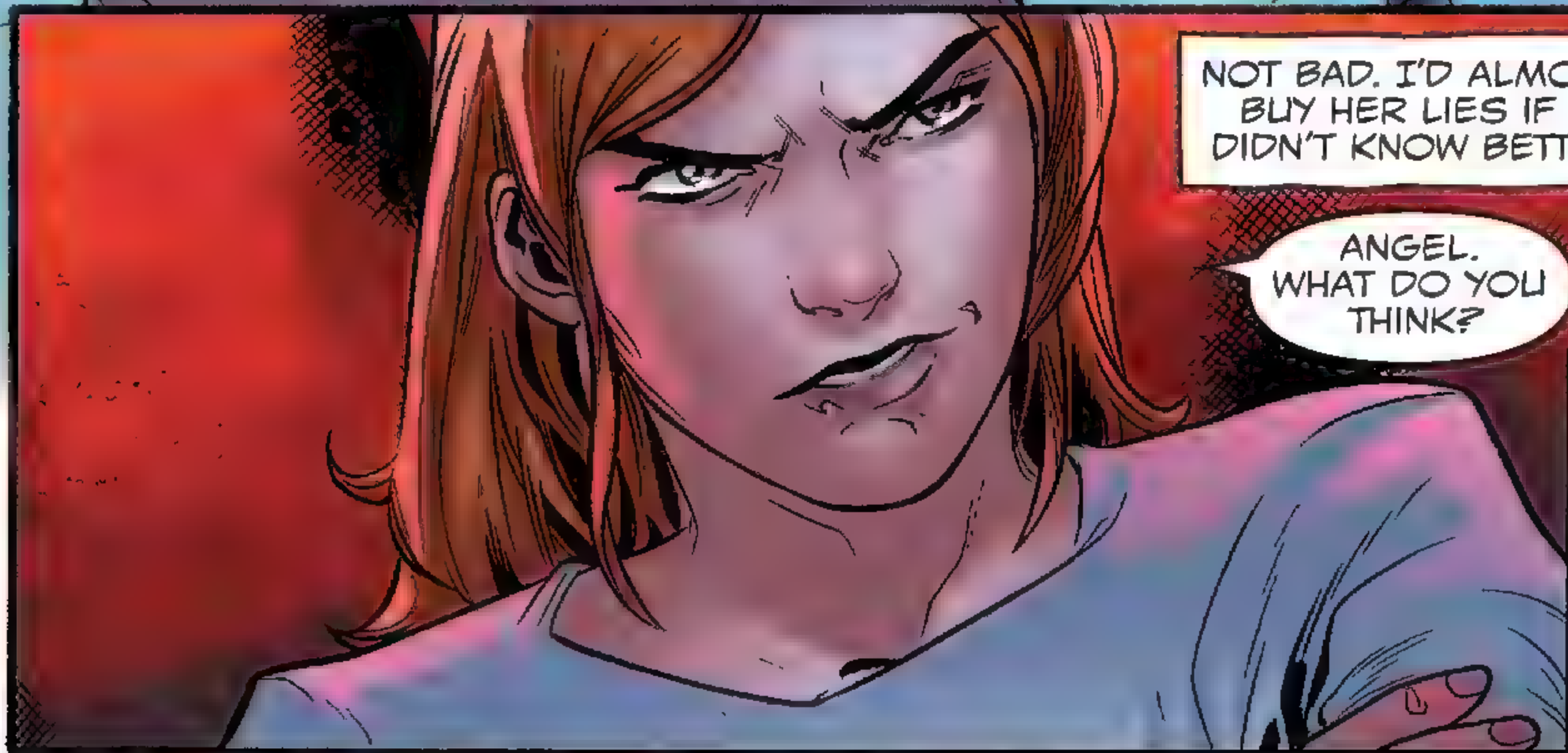
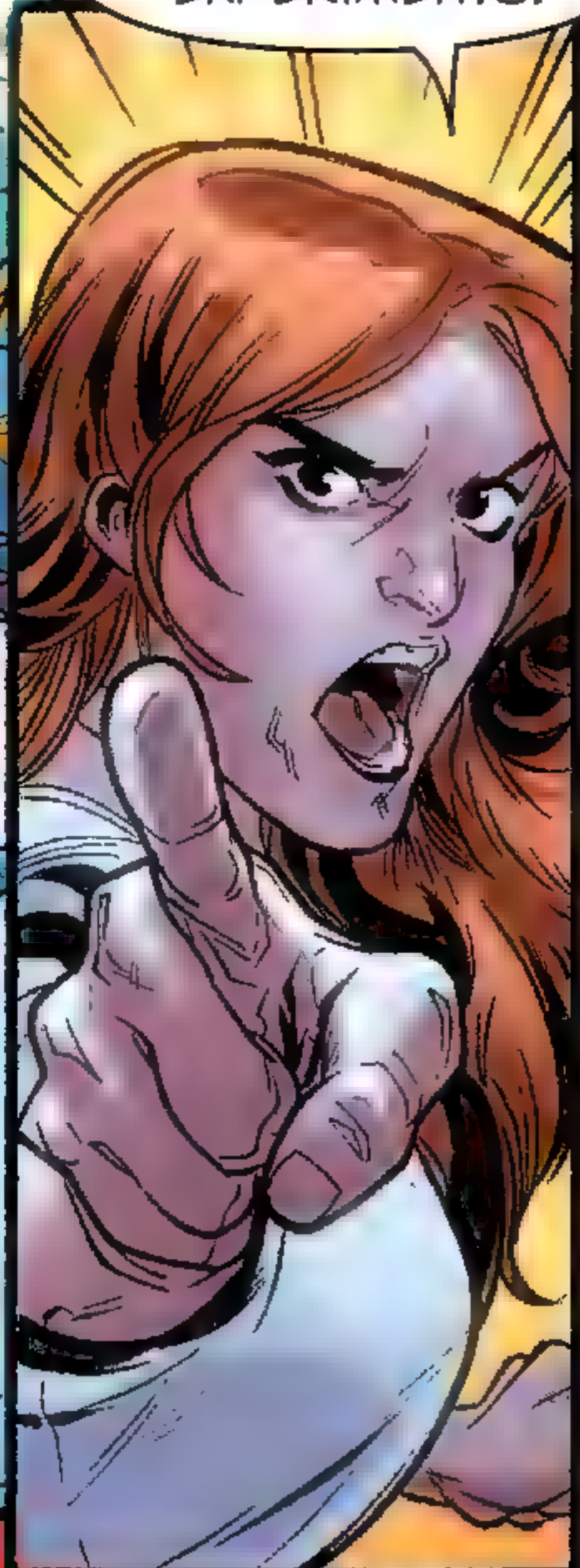


MAX?!

NO! HOW DID SHE GET OUT?!

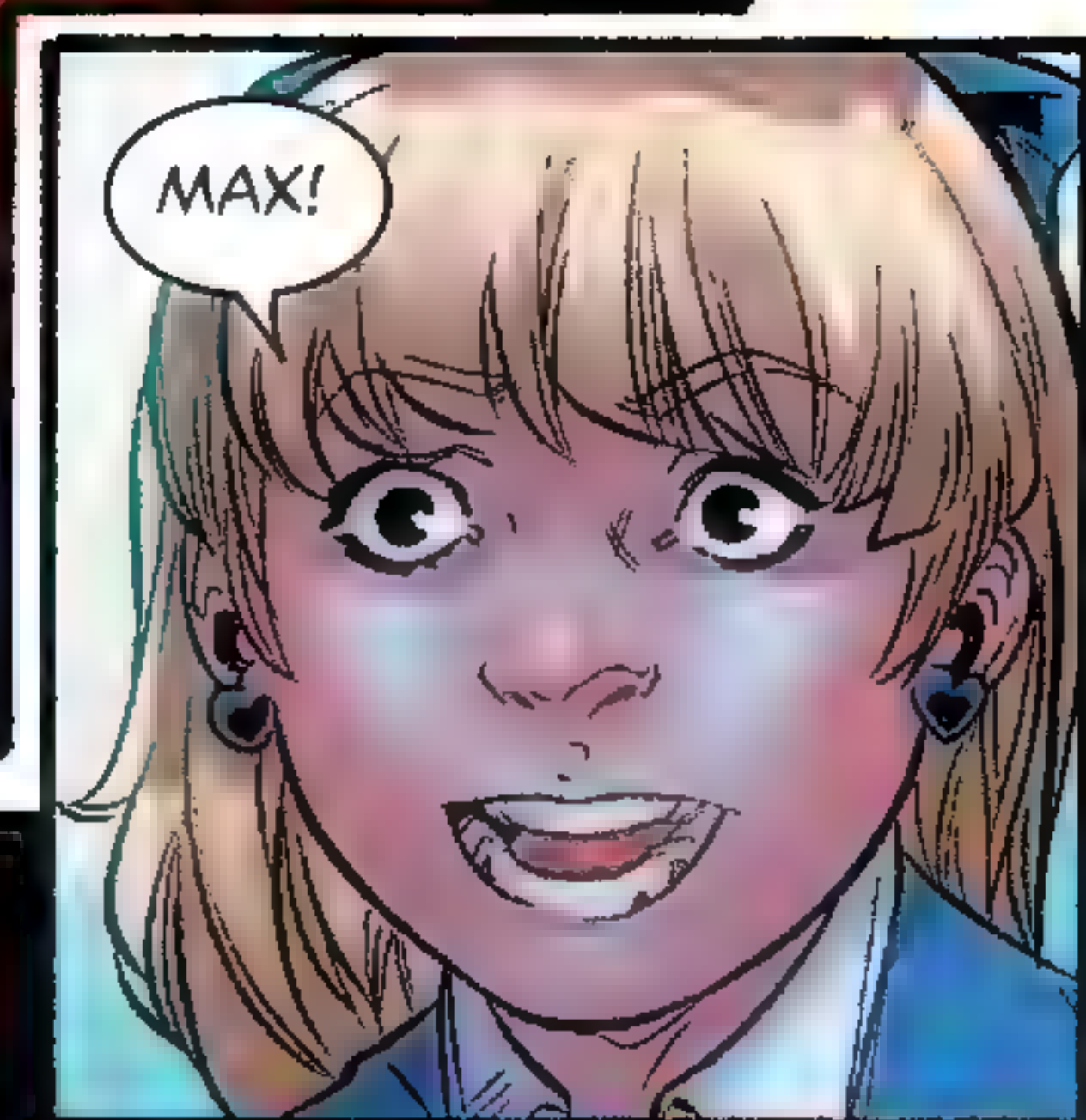
EVERYONE, KEEP BACK! IT COULD BE DANGEROUS!

ANOTHER ONE OF THEIR HORRIBLE EXPERIMENTS.



NOT BAD. I'D ALMOST BUY HER LIES IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER.

ANGEL. WHAT DO YOU THINK?



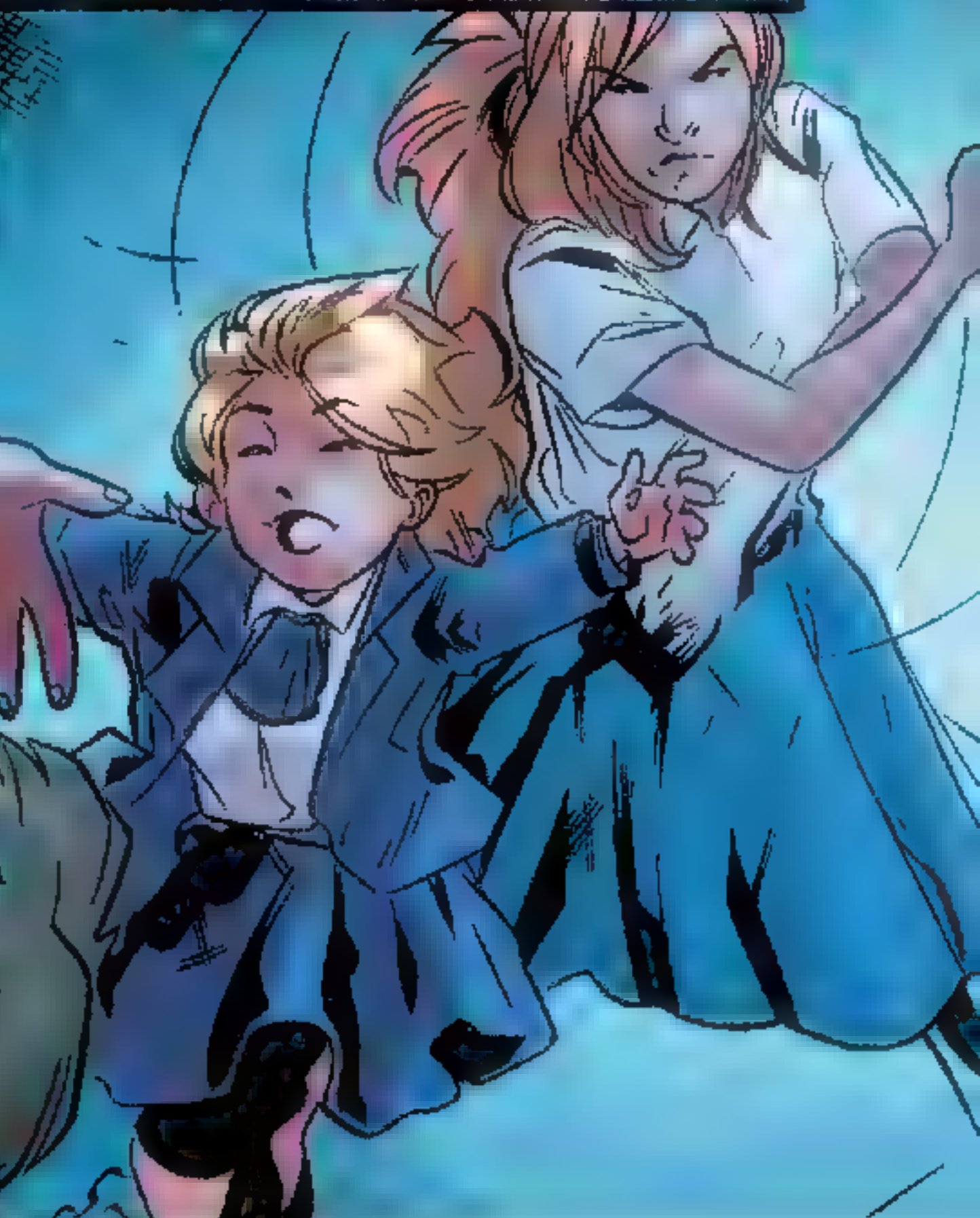
MAX!

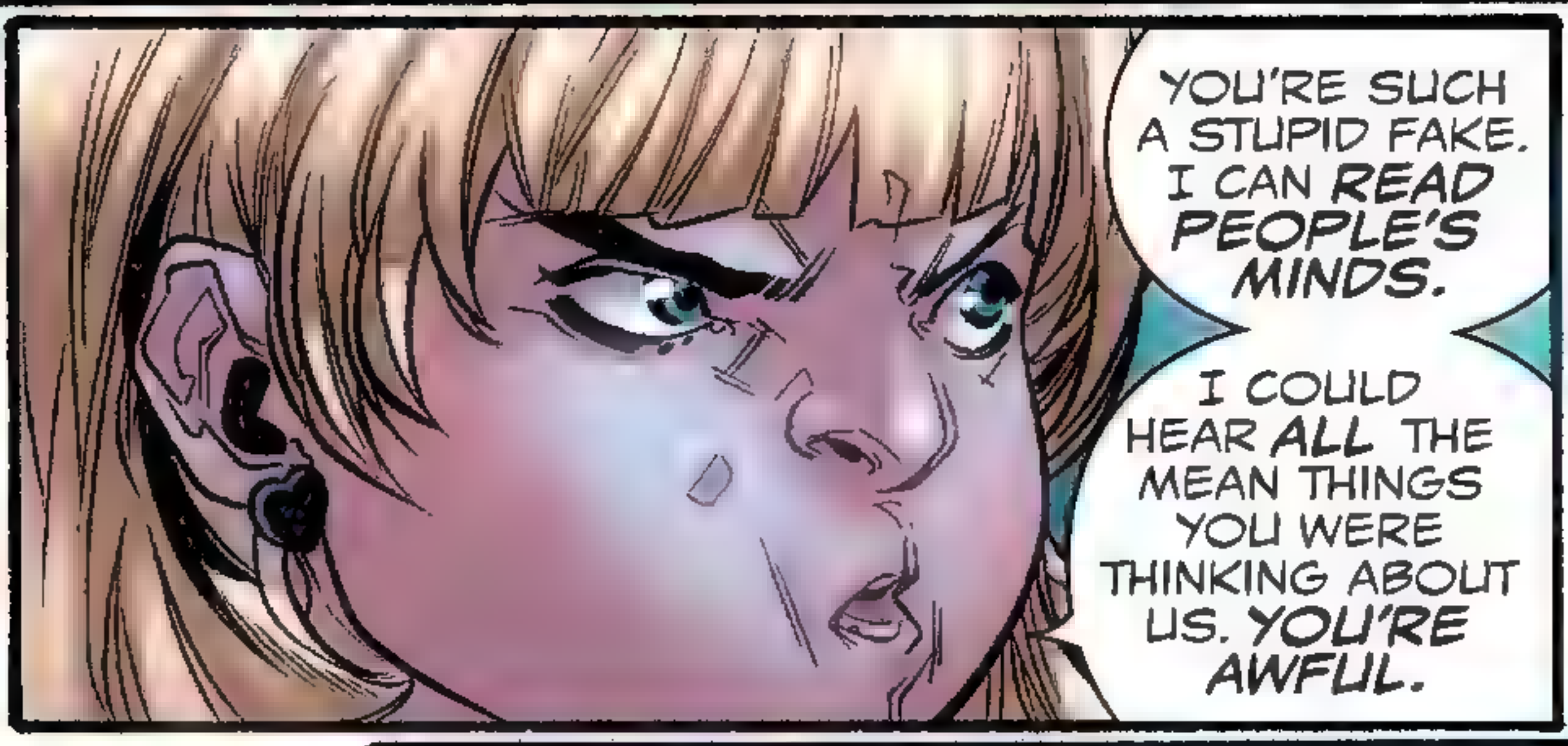


THE FLOCK IS MY FAMILY.

OF COURSE THEY'LL ALWAYS KNOW ME.

COME HERE!





YOU'RE SUCH A STUPID FAKE. I CAN READ PEOPLE'S MINDS.

I COULD HEAR ALL THE MEAN THINGS YOU WERE THINKING ABOUT US. YOU'RE AWFUL.

THAT **THING** INFECTED ANGEL'S MIND SOMEHOW! WE NEED TO--

OH, STUFF IT. ANGEL TOLD US YOU WEREN'T MAX AGES AGO.

YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT WE KNEW THE WHOLE TIME!



SOME COPY. THEY DIDN'T EVEN MAKE YOU SMELL RIGHT.

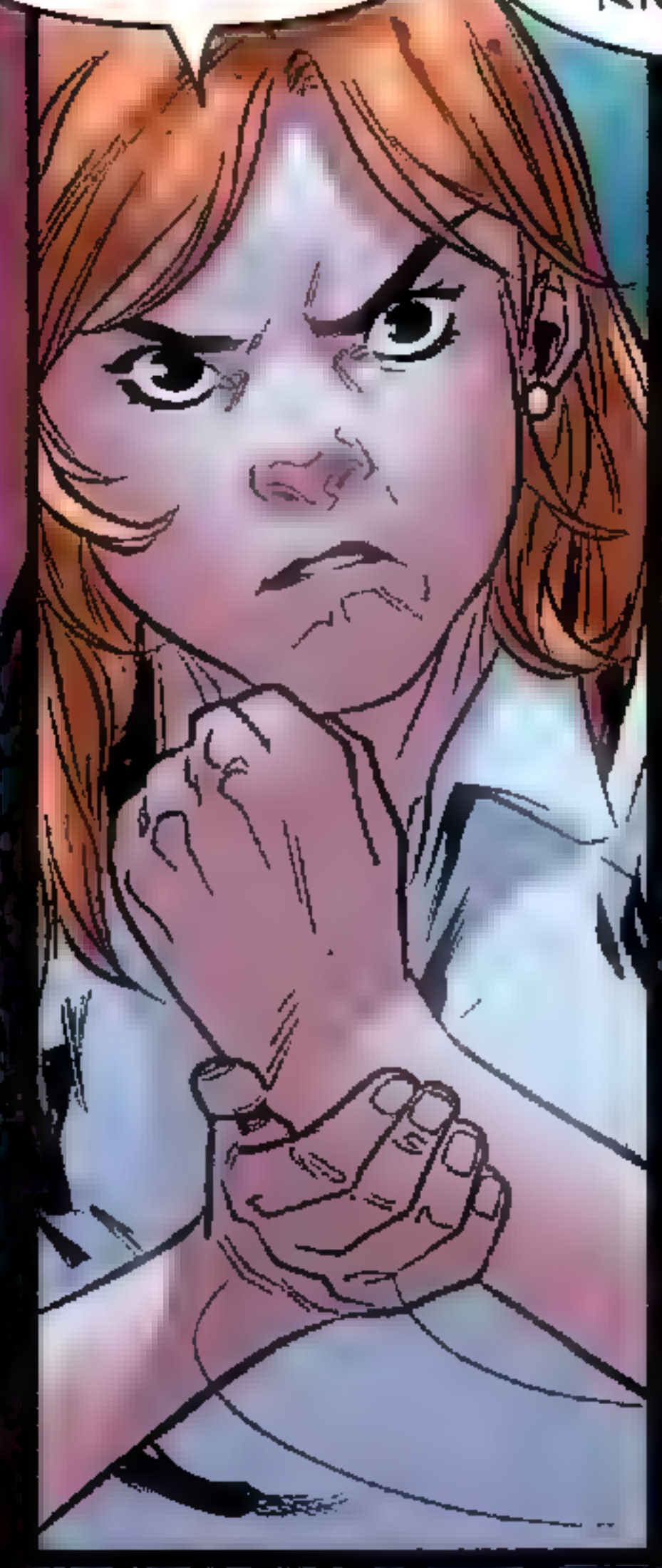
HE'S RIGHT.

WE KNEW ITX HAD TO BE A TRAP IF YOU WANTED US TO COME HERE.

WE ONLY STUCK WITH YOU SO YOU COULD LEAD US TO THE **REAL** MAX. AND NOW THAT YOU HAVE...

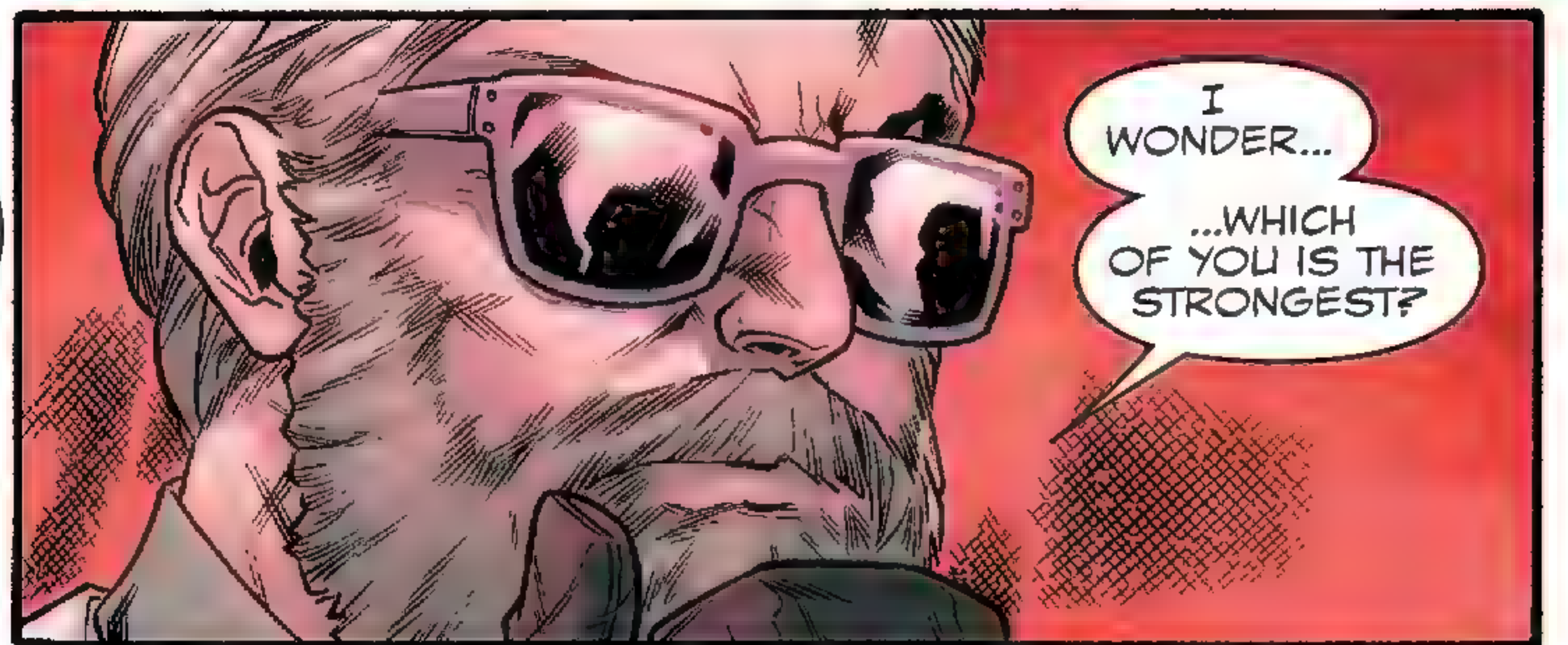
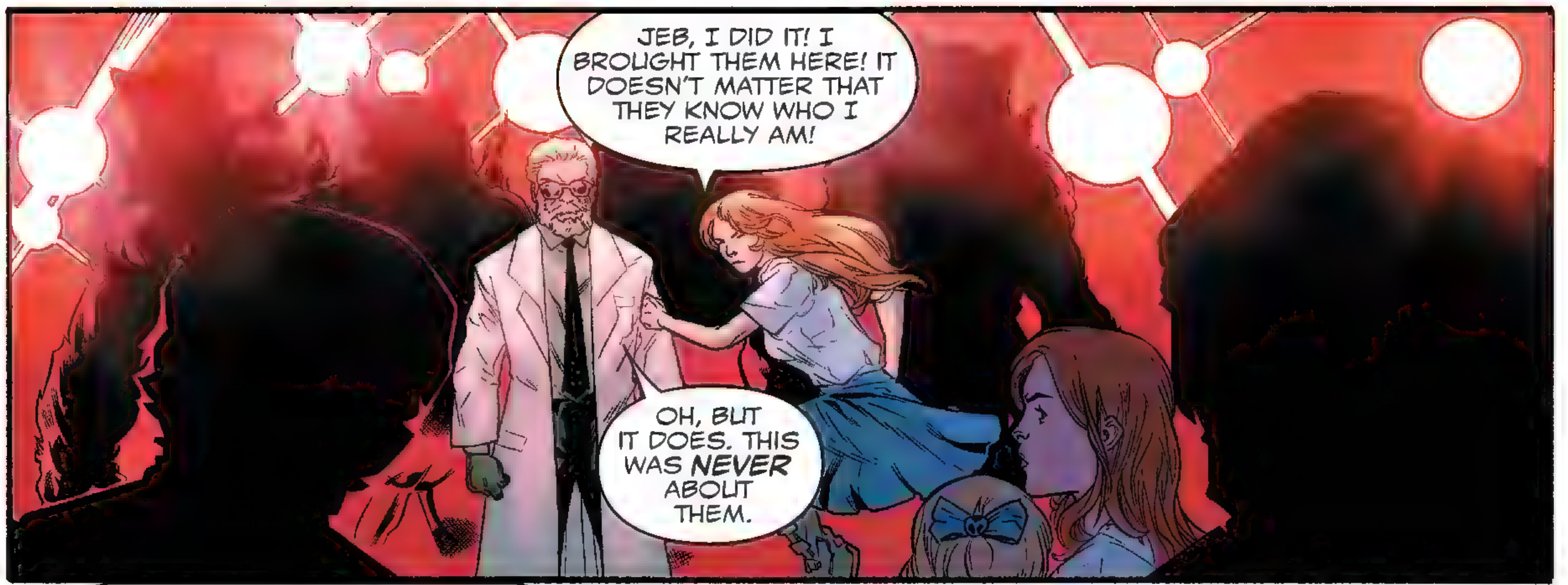
FINE. YOU KNOW WHO I AM. BUT IT WON'T SAVE YOU.

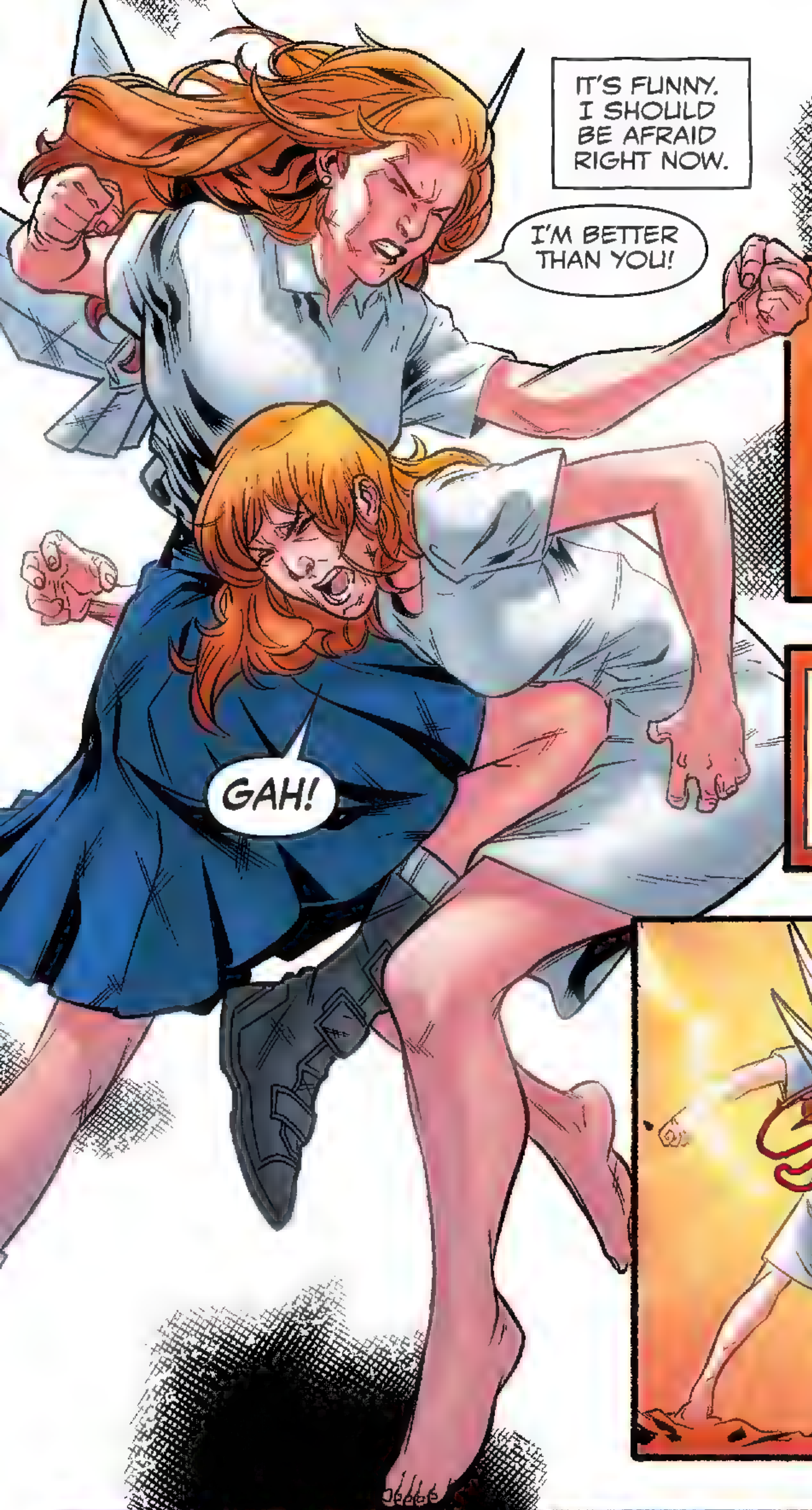
YOU'RE NEVER GETTING OUT OF HERE. I'LL KILL YOU MYSELF, RIGHT HERE--



NOW, NOW, MAX II, LET'S NOT BE HASTY.



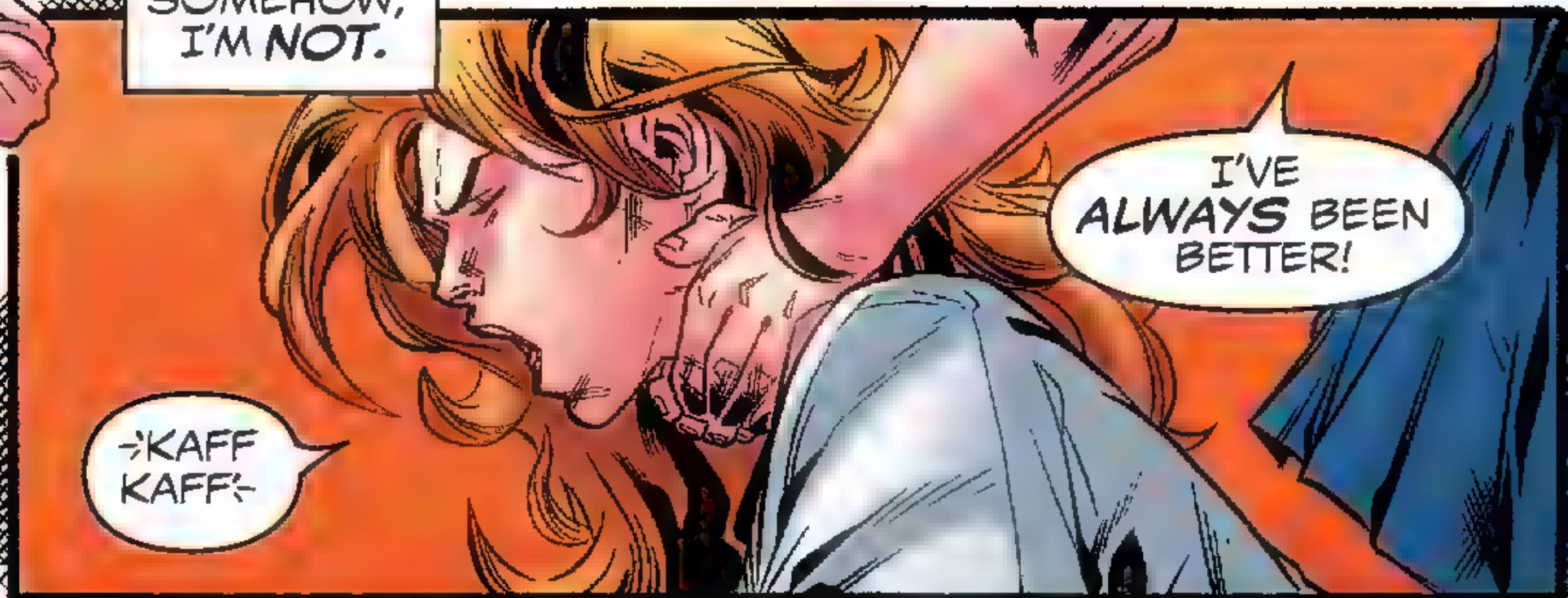




IT'S FUNNY.
I SHOULD
BE AFRAID
RIGHT NOW.

I'M BETTER
THAN YOU!

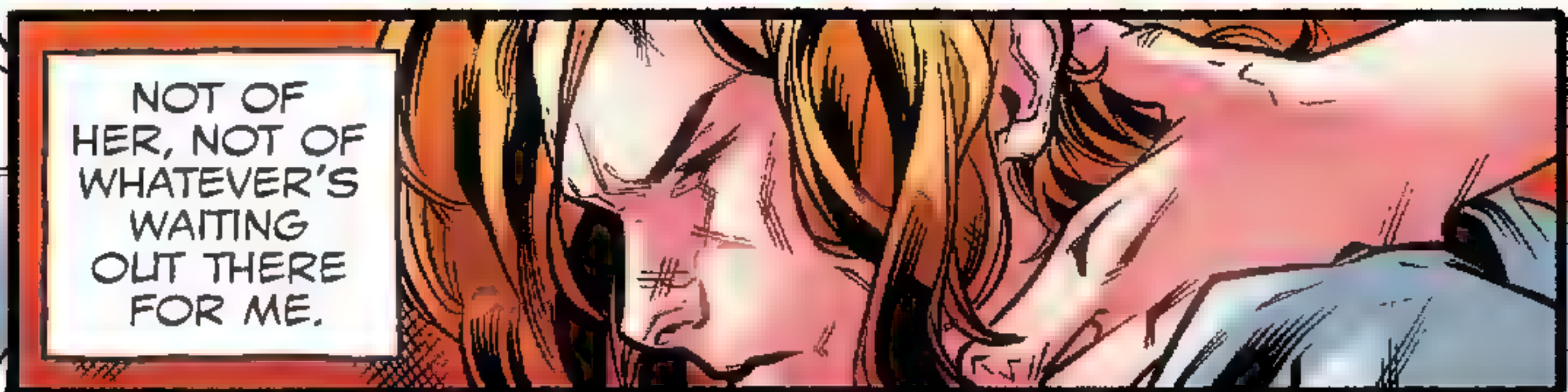
GAH!



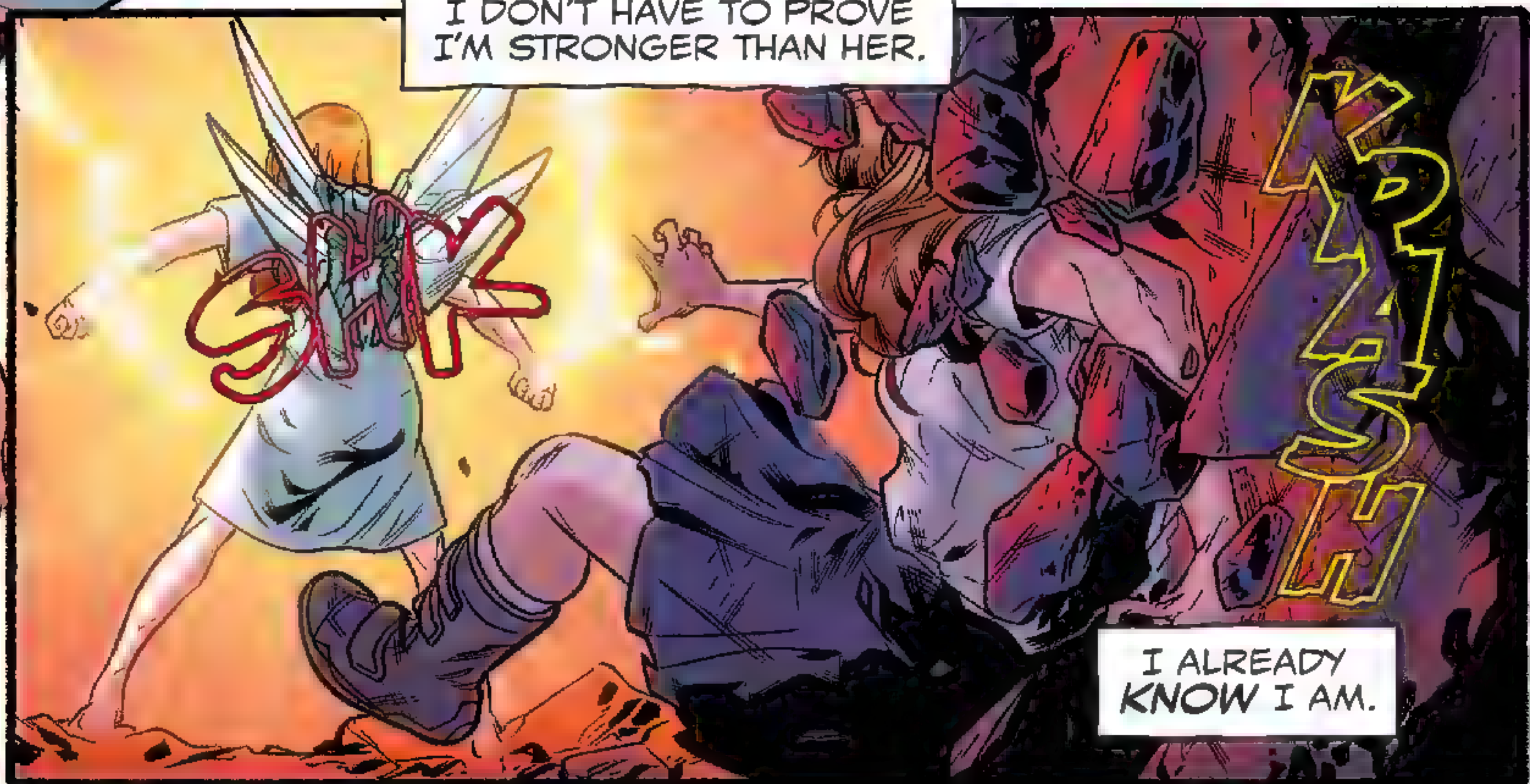
BUT
SOMEHOW,
I'M NOT.

I'VE
ALWAYS BEEN
BETTER!

→KAFF
KAFF→

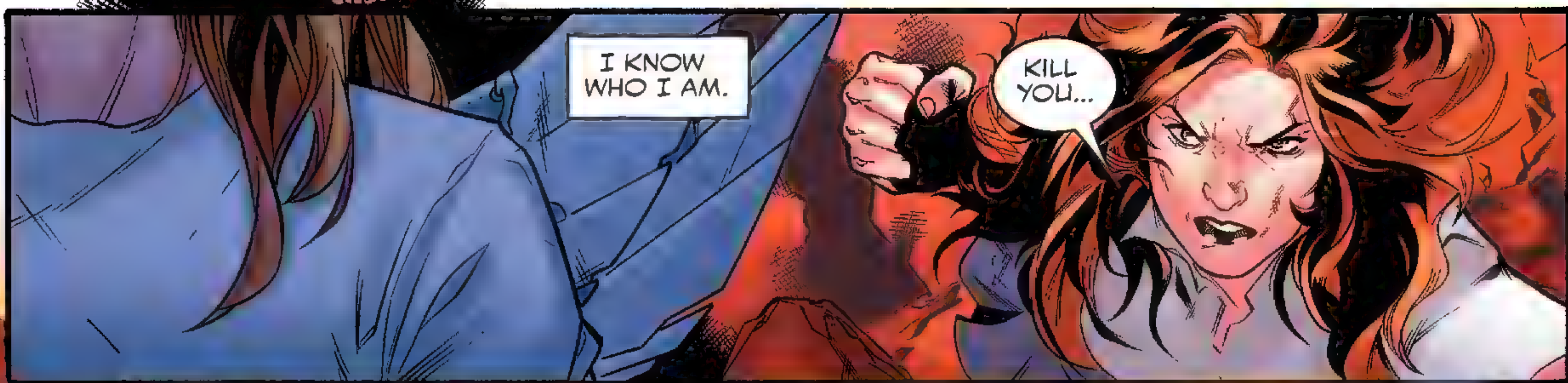


NOT OF
HER, NOT OF
WHATEVER'S
WAITING
OUT THERE
FOR ME.



I DON'T HAVE TO PROVE
I'M STRONGER THAN HER.

I ALREADY
KNOW I AM.



I KNOW
WHO I AM.

KILL
YOU...



NOT
TODAY.

I'M
**MAX
RIDE**

ACCEPT NO
SUBSTITUTES.

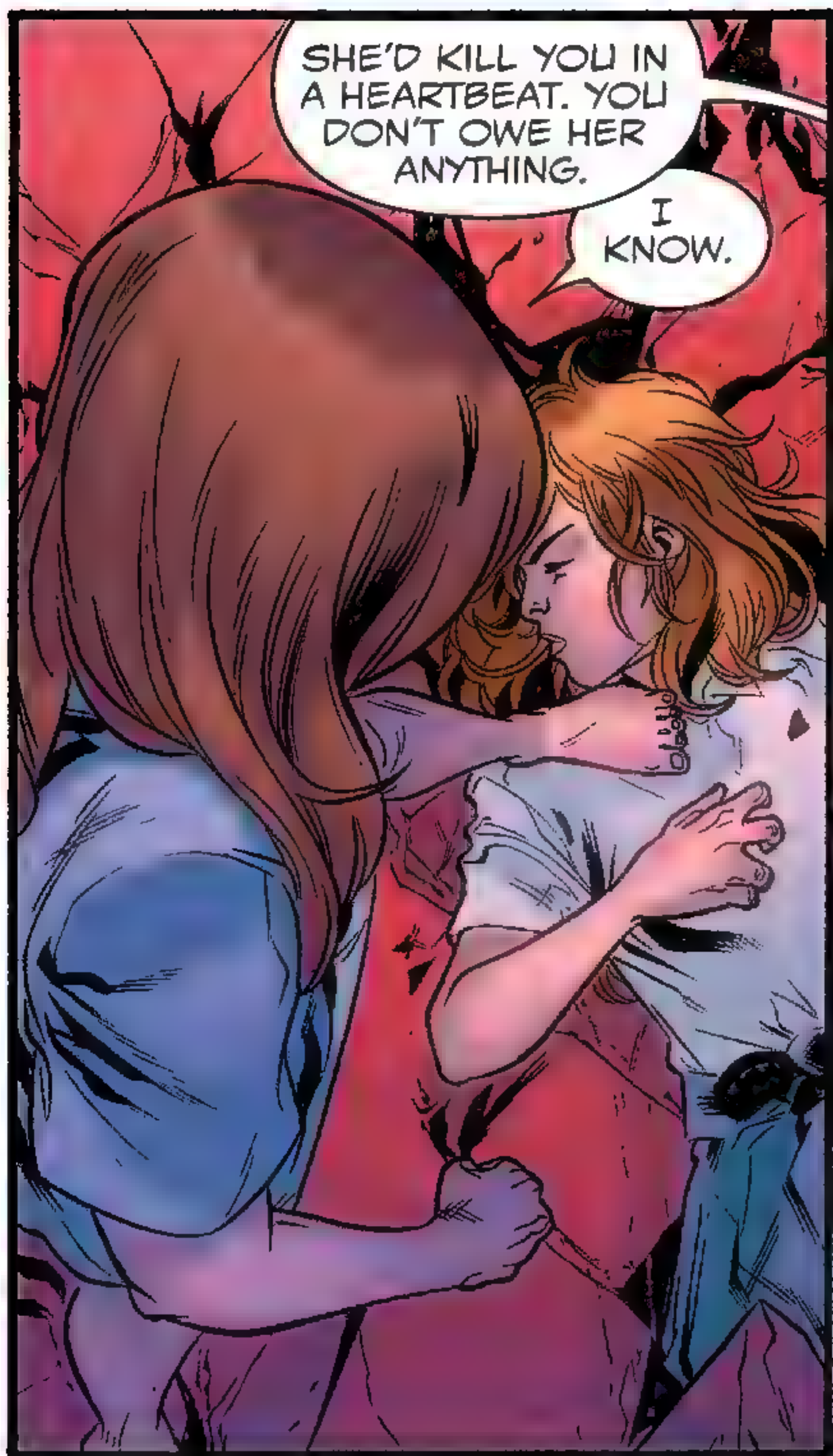
NGH!

STAY
DOWN.



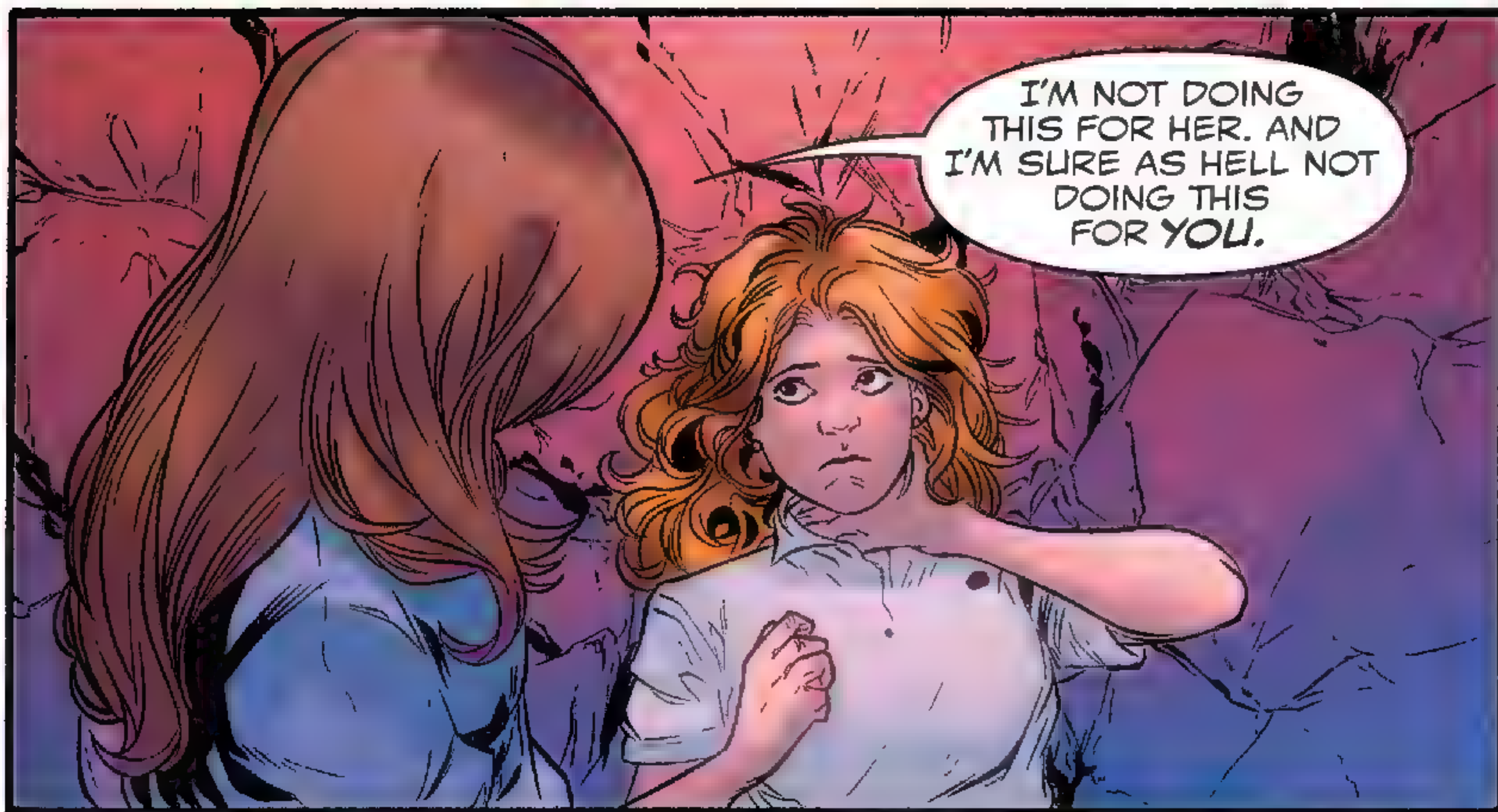


EXCELLENT,
MAX. NOW, KILL
HER.

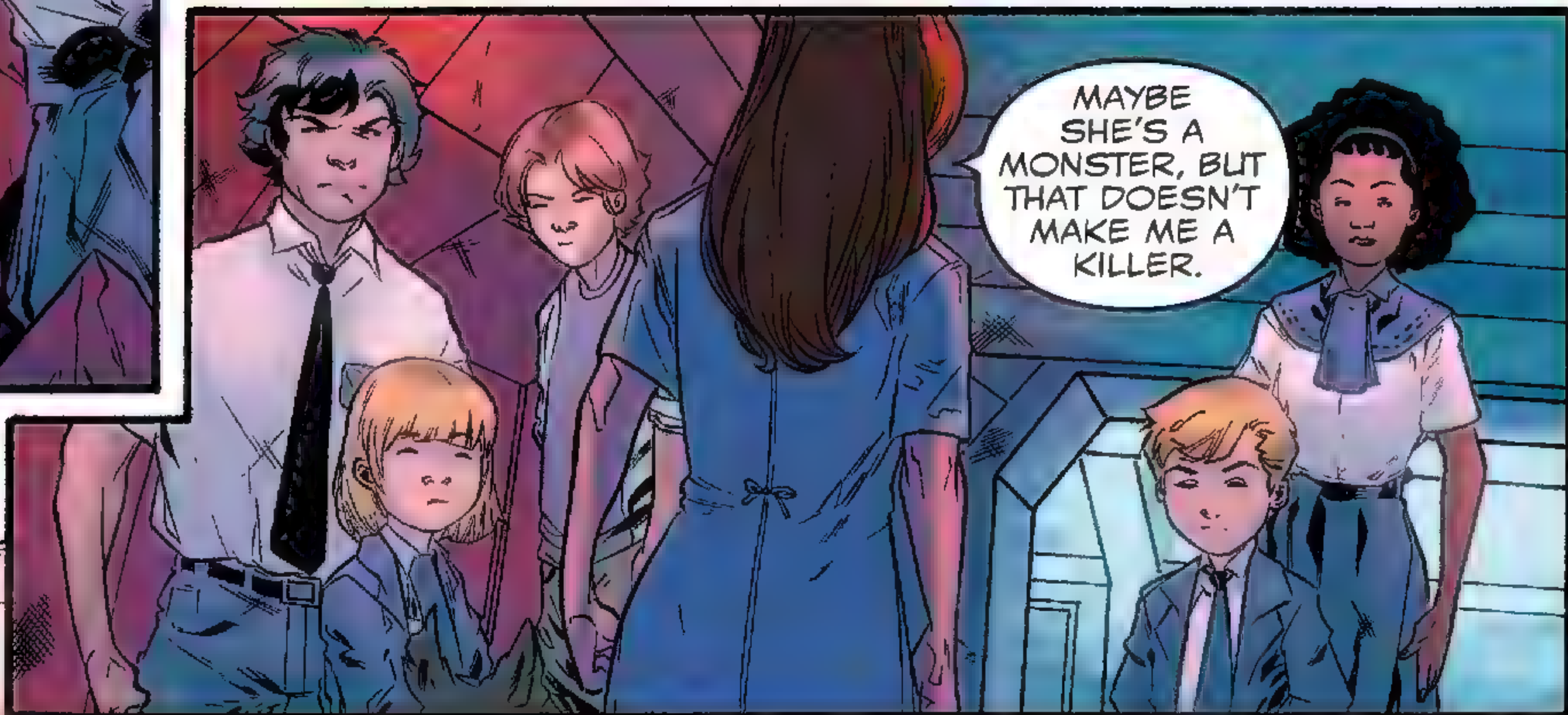


SHE'D KILL YOU IN
A HEARTBEAT. YOU
DON'T OWE HER
ANYTHING.

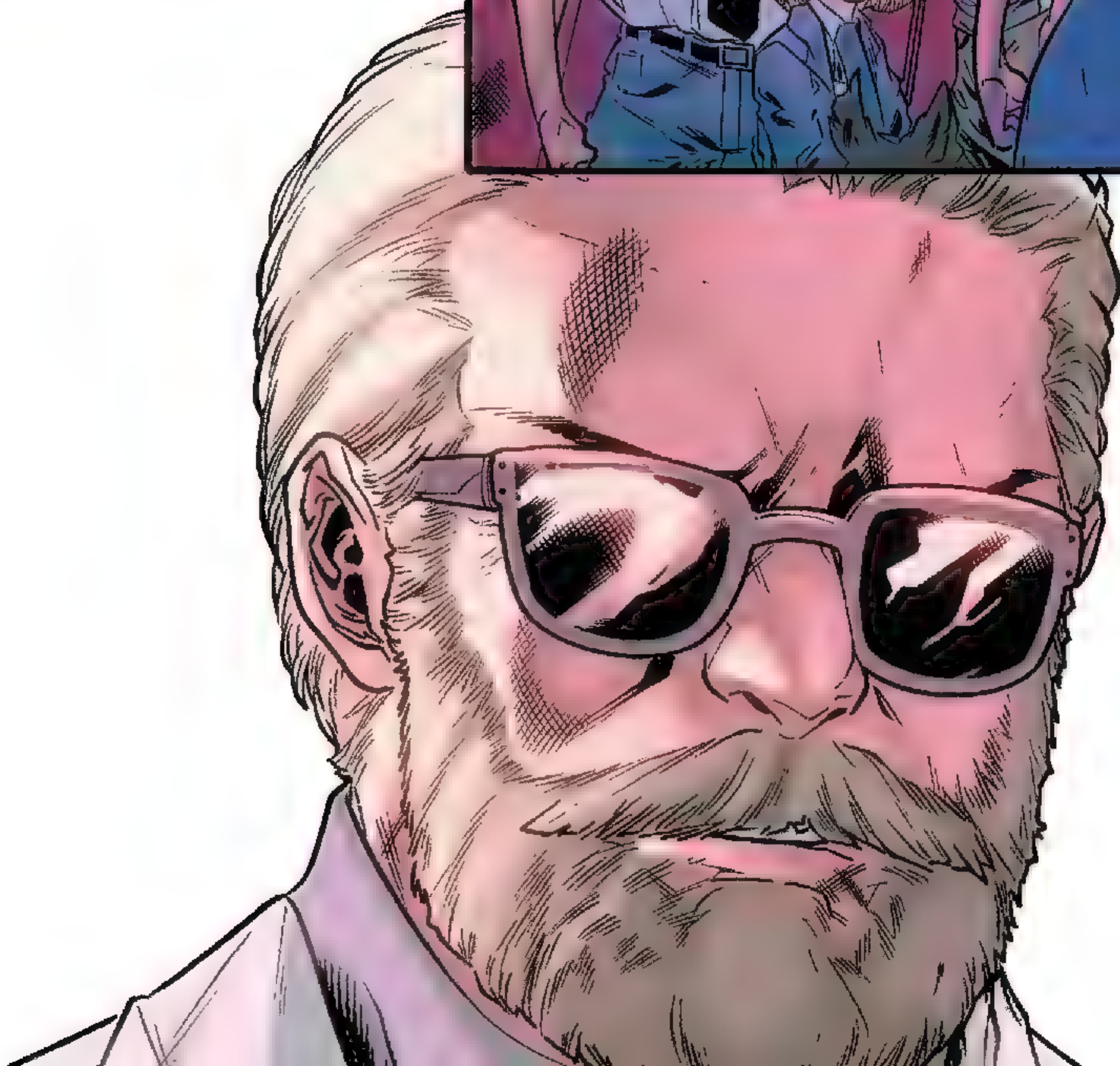
I
KNOW.



I'M NOT DOING
THIS FOR HER. AND
I'M SURE AS HELL NOT
DOING THIS
FOR YOU.

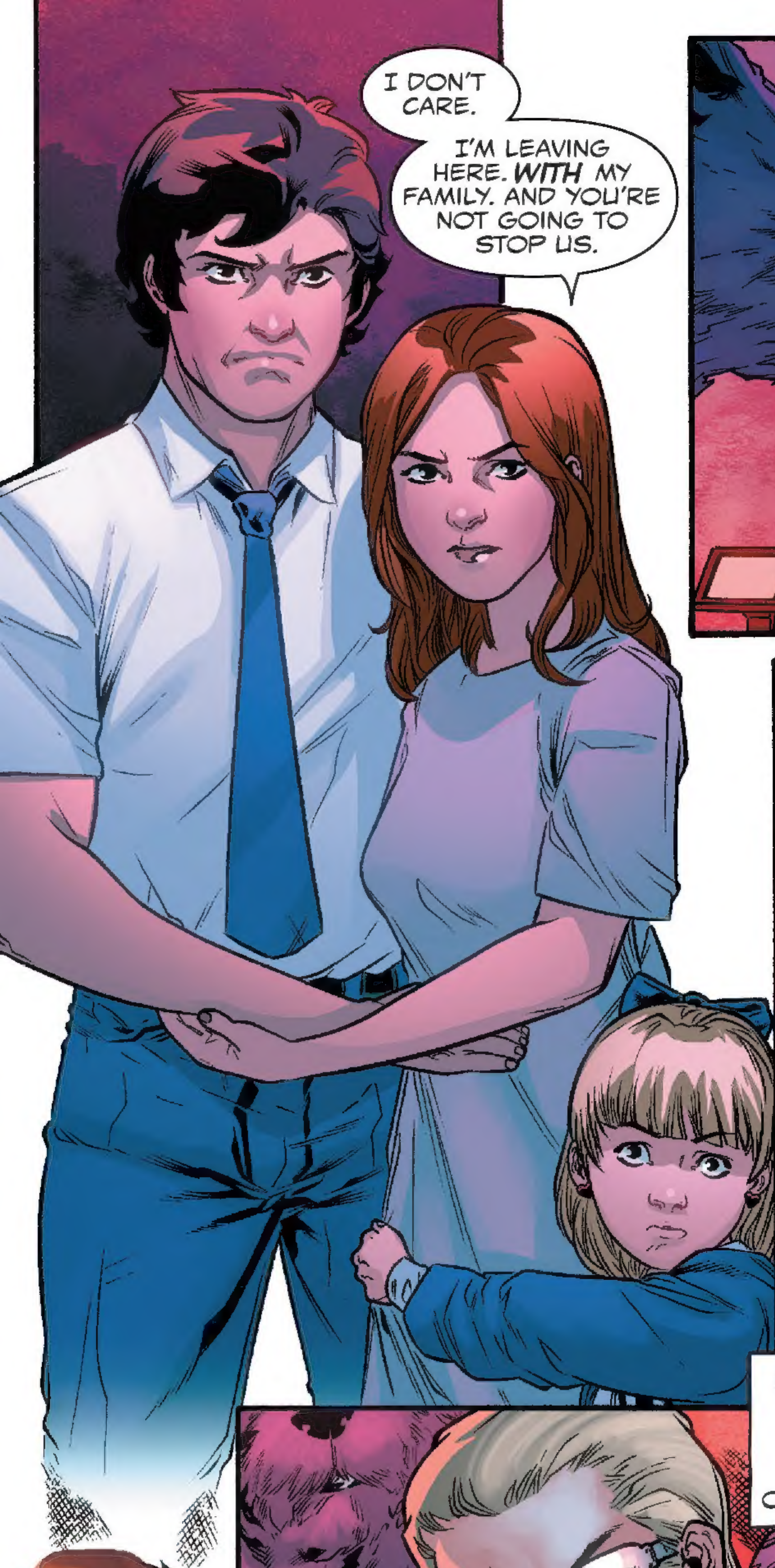


MAYBE
SHE'S A
MONSTER, BUT
THAT DOESN'T
MAKE ME A
KILLER.



LOOK
AT THAT.

YOU
PASSED
ANOTHER
TEST.



I DON'T CARE.

I'M LEAVING HERE. *WITH* MY FAMILY. AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO STOP US.



I WASN'T PLANNING TO.

MAYBE I WAS CREATED TO SAVE THE WORLD. MAYBE I'LL EVEN HAVE TO DO IT SOMEDAY.



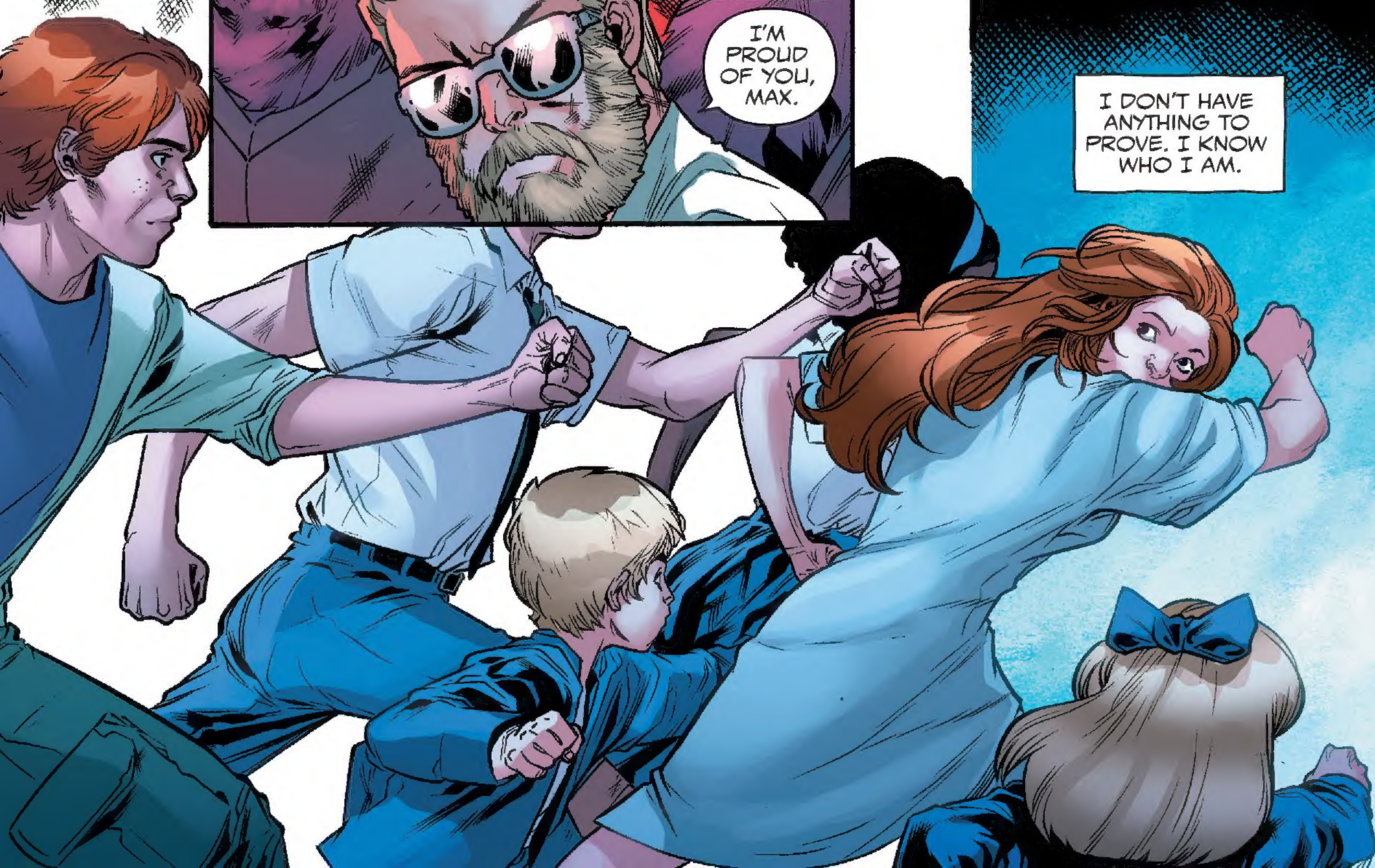
BUT WHEN THAT DAY COMES, I'LL DO IT ON MY OWN TERMS.



I'M PROUD OF YOU, MAX.



I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO PROVE. I KNOW WHO I AM.



AND I KNOW
WHERE I BELONG...

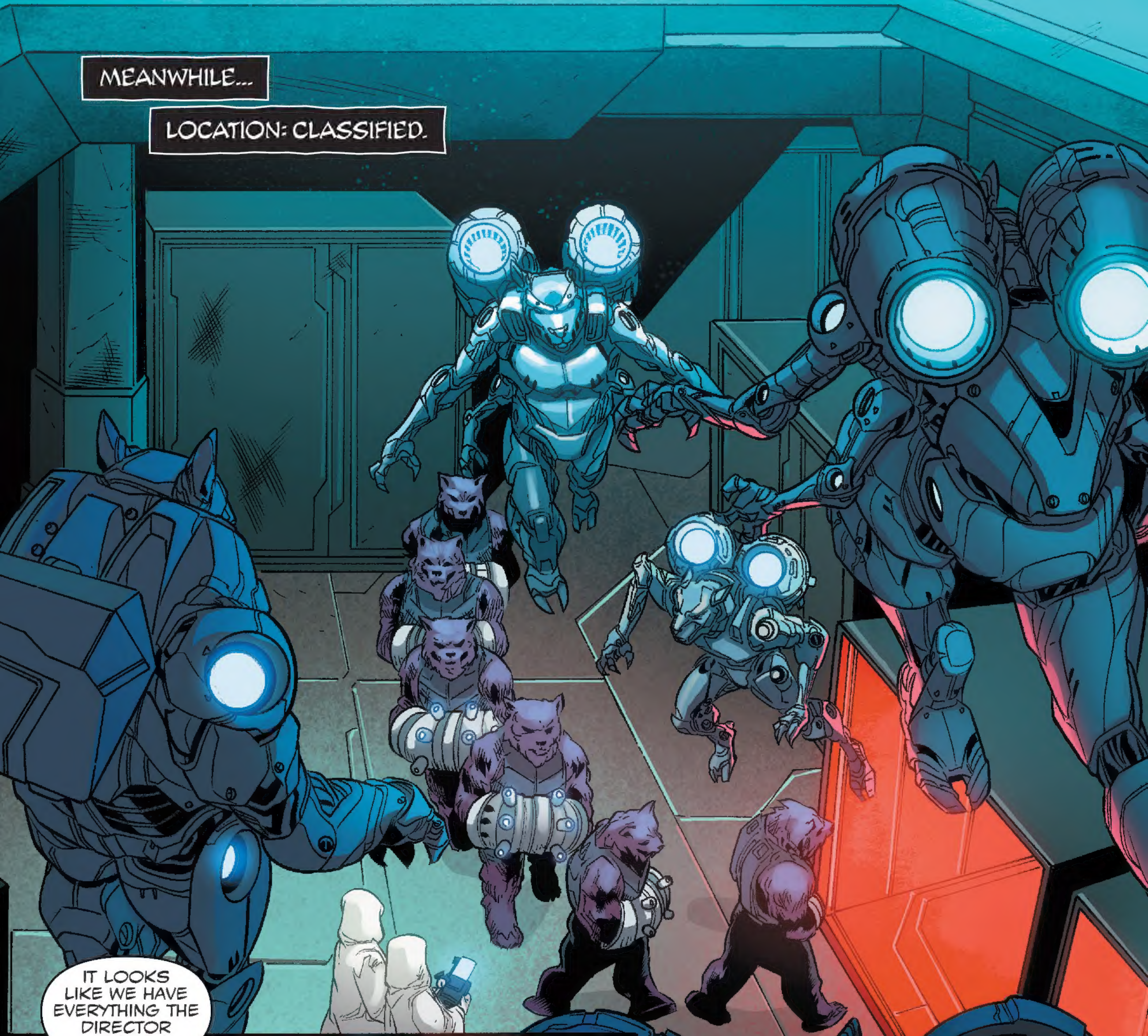
WHERE
DO WE GO
FROM
HERE?

NO CLUE.
BUT WE'LL
FIGURE IT OUT
TOGETHER.

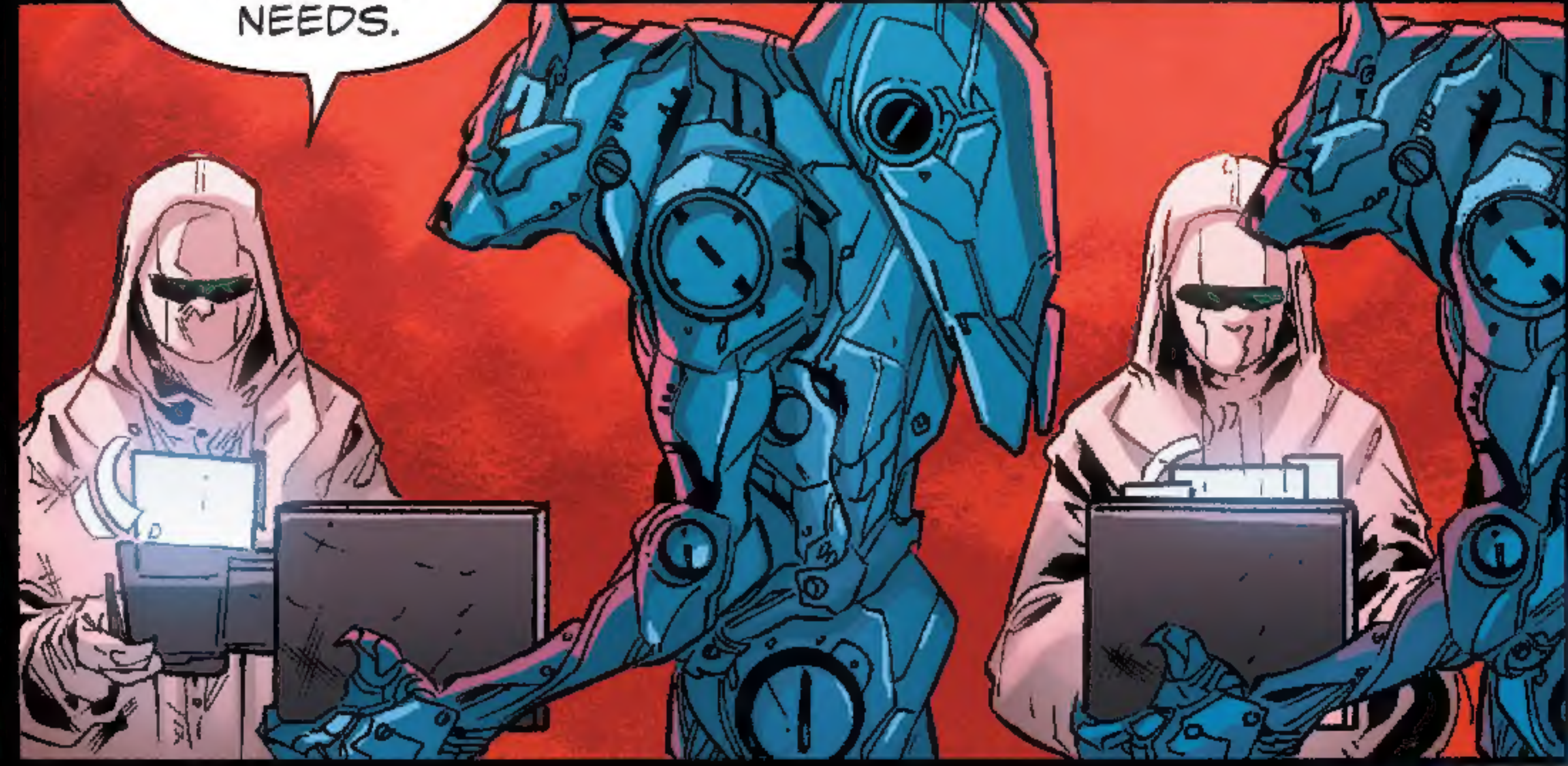
...WITH MY
FAMILY IN
THE SKY.

MEANWHILE...

LOCATION: CLASSIFIED.



IT LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE EVERYTHING THE DIRECTOR NEEDS.



EXTERMINATE THE FAILURES AND BURN THE REST.



TO BE CONTINUED IN MAX RIDE: FINAL FLIGHT!

